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OPINION METER

This week's poll:
Do you support the \$10 fee being charged campers who will set up tents in public lands along the Liberation Day parade route?

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INSIDE



Nephrology Nurses

Four nurses at the Commonwealth Health Center pass the Certified Nephrology Examination.

LOCAL...Page 7



Susupe Cleanup

CTSI and Tan Holdings employees hold a cleanup of Susupe Beach Park last Saturday.

ENVIRONMENT...Page 17



King No More

CNN's Larry King said Tuesday that he will step down this fall from his nightly show.

LIFE & STYLE...Page 18

'Better be prepared for payless payday than have false hopes'

» July 5 is a holiday

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Fitial administration has asked gov-

ernment employees to be prepared for another possibility of a payless payday tomorrow, rather than have high expectations that they will get their paychecks on time.

Moreover, if government employees

do not get their paychecks tomorrow, the earliest possible time they could be paid will be on Tuesday because Monday, July 5, is an observed legal holiday and government offices will be closed. The Fourth of July holiday falls on a Sunday,

and the government holiday will be observed the Monday after.

Press secretary Angel Demapan, in an interview yesterday, also said that the Commonwealth Development Authority

See **PAYLESS** on Page 4

\$6.3M in misspent public funds still not recovered

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Within a six-month period, government agencies were not able to recover a single cent of the \$6.3 million in misspent taxpayers' money that the Office of the Public Auditor reported as "potentially recoverable."

See **FUNDS** on Page 4



Pai



Jerry Tan is Rotary Citizen of the Year

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

For his unwavering commitment and dedication to the community, Tan Holdings Corp. president Jerry Tan was named Rotary Citizen of the Year by the Rotary Club of Saipan Tuesday night at Pacific Island Club's Charley's Cabaret.

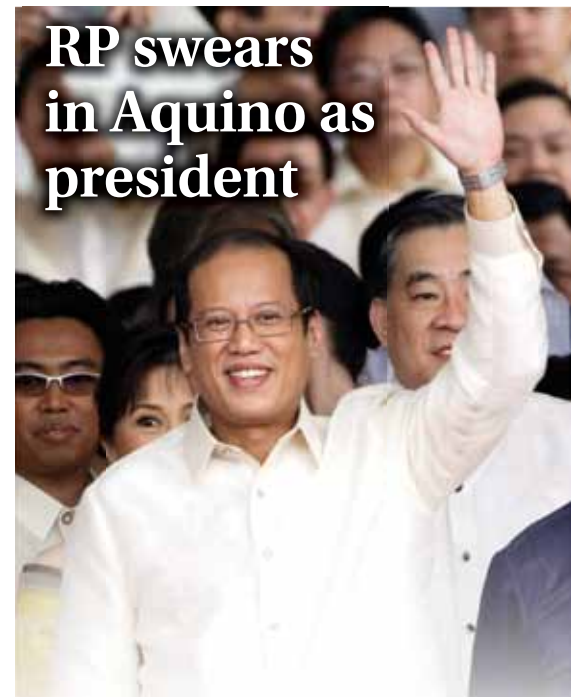
Tan Holdings Corp. president Jerry Tan accepts his Rotary Citizen of the Year Award during the installation of new officers and directors for the Rotary Club of Saipan on June 29 at the Pacific Islands Club. Joining Tan are Rotarians Dave Sablan, Ben Babauta, Glen Perez, Kim Forrester, David Igitol, Peter Igitol, Karl Reyes, and Alex Sablan.

CLARISSA DAVID

Past president Kim Forrester presented the award to Tan "in recognition of his insurmountable contribution to the community" during the installation of the Rotary's new set of officers and directors.

See **ROTARY** on Page 4

RP swears in Aquino as president



President-elect Benigno Aquino III, affectionately called Noyonoy by his countrymen, was sworn in yesterday as the Philippines' 15th president, leading the Southeast Asian nation his late parents helped liberate from dictatorship and which he promises to deliver from poverty and pervasive corruption.

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Fitial enacts MPLT law remitting new \$4M for CUC. PAGE 2
Housing allowance for CHC staff released. PAGE 2



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Local

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Fitial enacts MPLT law remitting new \$4M to pay for CUC billing

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
 haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
 REPORTER

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial signed into law yesterday a bill allowing the Marianas Public Land Trust to earmark and appropriate to the general fund an additional \$4 million in advance interest payment.

Fitial signed House Bill 17-78, House Draft 1, Senate Substitute 1 into Public Law 17-7, just a day after the Senate and the House of Representatives passed the measure

in back-to-back sessions.

But lawmakers on Tuesday clarified that the \$4 million will be used for the government's utility billings, and not for tomorrow's payroll or for future payrolls.

Fitial, in his June 30, 2010 message to the Legislature, said that while the original intent of HB 17-78 was to amend PL 16-7 for the withholding of the \$200,000 from Fiscal Year 2011 interest income due the general fund from MPLT to fully liquidate the amount previously loaned to the Commonwealth Utilities Corp., this amount was part of the budget reduction in the FY 2011 budgetary resources.

"Accordingly, since HB 17-78, HD1, SS1 did not authorize the withholding of FY 2011 anticipated interest to accomplish the original intent, then the sum of \$200,000 is therefore available for appropriation and the total amount identified under House Concurrent Resolution 17-2 may be increased," Fitial told acting House Speaker Felicidad Ogumoro (Cov-Saipan) and acting Senate President Jude U. Hofschneider (R-Tinian).

HCR 17-2, HD1, which the House and Senate adopted, identifies FY 2011 projected revenue of \$149.371 million, of which \$132 million is available for government operations.

FY 2011 begins on Oct. 1, 2010 and ends on Sept. 30, 2011.

Housing allowance for CHC staff released

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
 moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
 REPORTER

Employee of the Commonwealth Health Center can now heave a big sigh of relief following the release of their housing allowance yesterday.

The Department of Finance issued the allowances in the morning and CHC employees were able to get the amount, representing their allowance for June.

Esther Muña, Public Health's acting deputy secretary for hospital administration, confirmed the issuance of the housing benefit to all employees who are qualified to receive it.

The issuance of the housing perk was delayed for some weeks as a result of declining government revenues and collection. The benefit is scheduled to be issued every first week of the month.

Employees admitted yesterday that they understand if some benefits for this month may be delayed anew, considering the current situation of the government, which is scrambling to find money to meet payroll obligations.

"We understand the govern-

MPLT board trustee Pedro Deleon Guerrero earlier said that MPLT is "satisfied" with the bill as passed by the Senate and House, adding that the \$4 million is not a "loan" but "advance interest payment."

"It's just advancing the interest payment that would have been remitted to the central government in the following years," he said.

Rep. Ramon A. Tebuteb (R-Saipan), in an interview yesterday, said he still believes that the \$4 million is a "loan" and may be in violation of the CNMI Constitution if it is used for government operations.

The MPLT bill, introduced by Rep. Ray N. Yumul (R-Saipan), amends Public Law 16-7, which had allowed the transfer of \$3.4 million to CUC on Aug. 4, 2008, to address the rolling blackouts at that time. Since then, MPLT has received interest income from their investments for FY 2009 that would have normally come into the general fund for appropriations paid back.

Of the \$3.4 million, there is still a balance of \$1.7 million.

Under the latest version of the bill that the Senate and House passed yesterday, there is another \$4 million that will be transferred to the CNMI general fund.

The total \$7.3 million is earmarked and appropriated from "future interest income distributions" of MPLT for FYs 2009, 2010, 2012.

ment's financial situation and we're appreciative of their effort to keep this housing privilege for us," a hospital employee told *Saipan Tribune*.

Because the housing benefit was terminated last year due to lack of funds, many employees are worried that this might happen again.

The allowance could be suspended or terminated by the government, depending upon the availability of funds. The privilege was later restored due to several resignations at the hospital.

Muña earlier assured that the housing benefit will not be suspended nor terminated.

The housing allowance is provided to employees who were hired from off-island. It amounts to \$800 monthly for those with dependents, while single employees get \$600. DPH has over 200 personnel receiving this privilege.

Tomorrow, government employees are scheduled to get their paychecks. However, no solid information has yet been received if all of them will be given their salaries on time.

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'Shaky finances a big factor in noncompliance with Medicare'

» **Muna: CHC corrected deficiencies, now just awaiting CMS assessment**

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The financial situation of the Commonwealth Health Center played a big factor in its failure to comply with Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services regulations, according to a ranking hospital official.

Acting deputy secretary for hospital administration Esther Muña assured, though, that the hospital was able to complete

the work needed to resolve the deficiencies cited by CMS.

CMS had threatened to terminate its provider agreement with CHC if the hospital fails to act on the serious deficiencies.

CMS conducted the complaint investigation survey in January and cited the hospital for several violations.

Muña, appointed deputy secretary in March this year, said that she immediately placed the survey findings among her top

Ex-Tinian senator named third-party custodian for DPW staff

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Superior Court allowed former Tinian senator Joseph Mendiola yesterday to act as a third-party custodian for an employee of the Department of Public Works who allegedly beat up his daughter, chased her with a machete, and recklessly drove a DPW vehicle.

Associate Judge David A. Wiseman granted Rufino Masga Mendiola's motion to modify his \$15,000 cash bail and allowed the 54-year-old suspect to post a \$15,000 property bond instead of cash.

The judge ordered Rufino Mendiola to surrender his passport and barred him from obtaining a new one.

Wiseman also directed Rufino Mendiola not to contact the alleged victim and potential witnesses and prohibited him from consuming any alcoholic beverages.

Former Tinian senator Joseph Mendiola promised the court that he will see so it that

the suspect, his brother, will not go anywhere near the alleged victim.

The court also allowed a co-third party custodian for Rufino Mendiola. He was represented in court by lawyer Joey P. San Nicolas.

Police arrested Rufino Mendiola Friday on charges of assault with a dangerous weapon, assault and battery, disturbing the peace, and misuse of government vehicle.

Police investigation showed that in the evening of June 18, Rufino Mendiola and his daughter had an argument after she confronted him of allegedly sexually harassing her friend. Rufino Mendiola got mad, beat up his daughter and hit her head with a cell phone.

As the daughter was leaving the house, Rufino Mendiola, who was drunk, chased her with a machete, then allegedly drove a DPW truck recklessly.

Police said the victim's left cheekbone was swollen and she complained of pain in the back of her head.

priorities and corrective action plans were submitted to CMS on May 7.

The CMS citations, totaling 112 pages in all, focused on the hospital's governing body, its medical staff, quality assessment and performance improvement, nursing services, radiological services, and infection control.

For the governing body, Muña said CHC was cited mainly for not having a qualified nursing director and quality management coordinator as well as the absence of key hospital officials in meetings that ensure quality care.

Saipan Tribune learned that these positions—nursing director and quality manage-

ment coordinator—were zeroed out from the hospital's budget because of declining government revenues.

Muña said the hospital's leadership immediately worked with the Finance Department and the Office of Management and Budget Office to get these positions.

April Ricotta was then hired as nursing director and was on her second day when CMS conducted the survey. The quality management coordinator and dietitian services were contracted out.

Muña said CHC was also cited for not having proper documentation showing that the experience of its physicians has been verified before granting

them new privileges.

Delayed payments to vendors were also noted by the surveyors, who cited the unavailability of blood reagents that are critical for diagnostic laboratory tests.

"We've had to re-emphasize with the other agencies of the critical need to get payments out promptly for the supplier of reagents and it was included as a key quality indicator for accounting to monitor this," said Muña.

She admitted that almost all issues of noncompliance were rooted in the governing body.

"Once we placed the appropriate personnel to take the lead, we were able to make the corrections and ensure that monitoring mechanisms were effective....The financial situation is one factor for noncompliance. Nonetheless, CHC has a responsibility to make sure patients are provided quality care, no matter what," she said, adding that they are working closely with CMS to bring CHC back into compliance.

"I have to congratulate all the CHC staff for coming together to get our Plans of Correction to CMS on time. Everyone worked hard to get all the documents together and ensure corrective actions were made."

Muña, who is also the hospital's chief financial officer, took over the position of deputy secretary for hospital administration after the retirement of Pete Untalan.



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Alien worker gets 257 days for 'ice' possession

The Superior Court ordered an alien worker yesterday to spend 257 days in prison for illegal possession of methamphetamine or "ice" last year.

Associate Judge David A. Wiseman sentenced Junding Qiu to four years in

prison, all suspended except for 257 days, with credit for the 257 days he had already served.

This means that Qiu, a 36-year-old Chinese national, should be released from the Department of Corrections

yesterday.

The judge placed Qiu on supervised release and required him to pay a \$200 fine, \$100 court assessment fee, and probation fee.

Wiseman also ordered Qiu to per-

form 100 hours of community service.

The Office of the Attorney General charged the defendant with two counts of trafficking of a controlled substance, and two counts of illegal possession of a controlled substance.

Qiu signed a plea agreement with the government. He pleaded guilty to one count of possession of a controlled substance. The remaining charges were dismissed.

The agreement stated that on Oct. 15, 2009, Qiu was found in unlawful possession of crystal methamphetamine. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*



MEMORIAL SERVICE

Officials of the Marianas Visitors Authority and members of the Memorial Service Association for the Deceased Compatriots Overseas from South Korea participate in a memorial service last Saturday honoring Koreans and others who sacrificed their lives during the Battle of Saipan in 1944. Organized by the Korean Association of Saipan, the event was held at the Korean War Memorial Monument in Marpi and marked the 33rd annual memorial service for all those who perished during World War II.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

ROTARY

From Page 1

Tan, who is actively involved in several island organizations, told Rotarians he is very honored to receive an award from a "very prestigious and successful club."

"When people ask me how I manage quite a few things I do every day, the response is 'if you want to do it, it can be done,'" said Tan.

Acknowledging the economic slump being experienced on Saipan, Tan urged everyone that it is during these times "when all of us who are interested in helping the community to step up."

"It is important that we all want to

do our share in giving back to the community," Tan added.

Despite his numerous business and community ventures, Tan is able to get things done because he takes pleasure in what he does. "I do enjoy doing it, that's why it's not difficult for me."

Tan, who also congratulated the Rotary for their own contribution to the community, said the award is another motivation for him to continue serving the community. "It will just inspire me to continue doing the work that I enjoy doing alongside all of you... I will continue to do my share," he added.

The Rotary also presented the Honorary Rotarian of the Year award to Joe "The Coach" Diaz for his "dedication and exemplary commitment" to the

youth basketball league for more than a decade.

Serving as the head coach of the Rollers Basketball Club, Diaz was chosen by the Basketball Association of the Northern Mariana Islands to participate in a basketball camp in Istanbul this August.

The Outstanding Performance and Leadership award was given to Mike Tripp, who served as the director of Club Service from 2009 to 2010.

Tripp, who will be leaving Saipan for good, said that being part of the Rotary is "wonderful experience" he would never forget.

Tripp reminded his fellow Rotarians that the success of the strength of the organization lies in its members. "We can do a lot more together...than we

can do on our own," he said.

As he accepted his award, Tripp recognized the valuable contribution of Laurie Peterka who sponsored him to the Rotary; Laila Boyer, who took over as the director of Club Service; and Forrester and the rest of the officers and directors he worked with.

Boyer was bestowed the Rotarian of the Year award by Forrester, who described Boyer as "a Rotarian who steps up and jumps in" and has worked hard, being with the Rotary for only a year.

The award was given to Boyer in recognition of her "dedicated service, loyalty, and devotion to the idea of Rotary International," which is service above self.

Boyer, who got emotional when she accepted the award, told fellow Rotarians that she grew up with the Rotary because of her father. "I've always loved the Rotary," she said.

Boyer added that she enjoys Rotary's motto of service above self the most. "I really look forward to being part of the Rotary, especially with club services."

New Rotary officers

Tuesday night saw the installation of the new set of officers for the Rotary Club of Saipan for 2010 to 2011.

The inducted officers are Michael Brazel, president; Glen Perez, vice president; Victoria Concepcion, secretary; Amie Javier, treasurer; Boyer, director of club service; Josh Sasamoto, director of community service; Jeff Boyer, director of vocational service; Forrester, director of international service; Ben Babauta, director of foundation service; Richard Cody, sergeant-at-arms; and Nel Matanguihan, president-elect.

Brazel, who was not in attendance during the installation, was off-island because of an international convention.

Brazel expressed his gratitude to the Rotarians through a message that was read by Perez. He reminded the Rotarians about the value of teamwork. "Together, we can accomplish anything to which we set our hearts and minds," his message read.

FUNDS

From Page 1

Public Auditor Mike Pai released yesterday the latest semi-annual audit recommendations tracking report for the period ending Dec. 31, 2009, showing that not one government agency was able to recover any portion of the \$6.3 million since the last time OPA issued a report ending June 30, 2009.

Of the \$6.3 million in misspent public funds, \$2.6 million was referred to the Office of the Attorney General for legal action.

The recovery of the remaining \$3.7 million depends on government agencies such as the Commonwealth Ports Authority, the Department of Labor, and the predecessor of the Department of Public Lands – the Marianas Public Lands Authority.

The misspending of these taxpayers' money dates as far back as 1995, and several audit reports on these misspending have since been issued.

They include overpayment to contractors, improper payment to former government officials, improper use of

funds by officials, uncollected public land rentals from quarry operators, and uncollected fees from employers with alien workers.

Pai said yesterday that although the Interagency Audit Coordinating Advisory Group did not meet in 2009, OPA again issued follow-up letters and/or called various government agencies with outstanding audit recommendations as of Dec. 31, 2009.

The report incorporates agency responses to follow-up letters or documents obtained by OPA on or before June 24, 2010.

Pai, however, said the number of delinquent recommendations decreased by 29 percent, or from 42 in 2008 to 30 in 2009.

Agencies with delinquent recommendations as of Dec. 31, 2009 include CPA, the Commonwealth Utilities Corp., Department of Finance, DPL, Department of Public Safety, Northern Marianas College, NMI Retirement Fund, and the Public School System.

The recommendations addressed to these agencies are classified as "delinquent" as OPA was not informed by these agencies within the last 180 days

of any corrective action taken to implement OPA's recommendations.

As of Dec. 31, 2009, audit recommendations in seven audit reports were referred to the OAG for legal action to recover monies improperly spent.

"Of these seven audit reports, some \$2.6 million is potentially recoverable," OPA said.

OPA also said that on Dec. 1, 2009, OPA met with the attorney general to discuss the status of these referrals.

"The attorney general advised OPA that [OAG] will conduct further review of these referrals and will provide OPA the results of its review. As such, the status of these referrals remains unchanged," OPA said.

The agency also identified potential recoveries of \$3.7 million in eight audit reports addressed to various agencies.

"During its semi-annual follow-up process for the period of July 1, 2009 through Dec. 31, 2009, OPA has not received any update on the status of recovery of funds from the responsible agencies. Therefore, approximately \$3.7 million remains potentially recoverable from the previous report as of June 30, 2009," OPA added.

PAYLESS

From Page 1

has yet to remit an additional \$2 million to the general fund, which the central government expects to cover the July 2 payroll.

Demapan said as of yesterday afternoon, the only funds guaranteed for payroll are those for the salaries of police officers, firefighters, corrections officers, doctors and nurses, as well as those whose positions are funded by the federal government. This is estimated at \$1.5 million, or about half of some \$3 million needed for payroll coming from the general fund.

Public School System employees are also not affected by any payless pay-day.

"There's no telling yet whether there will be payroll for everybody. It's a

work in progress. The administration is doing the best it can to make sure there's payroll for everyone. But we'd rather have the public prepared, than to imply any kind of false hopes," Demapan told *Saipan Tribune*.

Lawmakers are also on a wait-and-see mode whether the Fitial administration will have its second delayed release of paychecks.

On June 18, only police officers, firefighters, corrections officers, doctors and nurses got paid on time. The rest of the employees received their checks on June 21.

CDA remitted \$1.9 million to the general fund on June 21, which explains why most government employees got their paychecks that same day. CDA earlier remitted \$1 million, which the central government used to pay the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. Another \$2 million is expected from CDA.

PSS bus drivers learn about passenger sensitivity, safety

By **CLARISSA V. DAVID**
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A total of 38 bus drivers and conductors from the Public School System on Saipan and Tinian participated in the Bus Driver Passenger Sensitivity and Safety Training at the Napu Room of the Pacific Islands Club on June 29-30.

The two-day training was conducted by Community Transportation Association of America certified trainer Ginger S. Porter and University of Guam Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities Education, Research and Service associate director Teresita Fejeran.

"What bus drivers don't realize is that they are the start of a student's day," said Porter, adding that with this thought in mind, drivers can make a big difference for these students.

The second day of the training was focused on driving for people with disabilities.

Porter, who conducted the training for PSS for the first time, highlighted the need for

drivers and conductors who assist students with disabilities to be sensitive to their needs. "When they transport these children, they should know how to approach, communicate, and assist them."

During the training, the participants were taught about securement equipment and self-retracting securement devices for wheelchairs, which are essential for special education transportation. The training also included hands-on, actual application of the lessons.

After the training, Porter said the special education drivers and conductors were tested on passenger service and safety curriculum of CTAA. The exam will be evaluated by the CTAA Washington Office. Those who pass the exam will be certified by the CTAA.

Eric Atalig, PSS Bus Pupil Transportation manager, said they organized the training to make the school bus drivers and conductors realize the importance of knowing how to properly assist students, especially the special education

students, without hurting them or getting hurt.

"Knowing our weaknesses will help us work on them," Atalig said.

He added that they plan to conduct regular trainings for PSS employees to update their knowledge in accomplishing their jobs.

Certified trainer Ginger Porter, second row third from left, poses with Public School System personnel who took part in the "Bus Driver Passenger Sensitivity and Safety Training" at the Pacific Islands Club in San Antonio yesterday.

HAIDE V. EUGENIO



Bail reduced for Tinian firefighter in domestic violence, abuse case

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_deltorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The \$40,000 cash bail for a Tinian firefighter who is accused of beating his wife and their two children has been reduced, with a warning against violating the conditions set for his temporary release.

Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman granted Brent Harold Borja's motion to allow him to post a \$4,000 cash bail and \$36,000 in property bond, subject to several conditions.

These conditions include requiring Borja to stay on Saipan, barring him from contacting the victims and potential witnesses, and consuming no alcoholic beverages.

Wiseman said all conditions set in the court's protection order issued by associate judge Ramona V. Manglona will be incorporated in his order.

Manglona's March 29, 2010 order barred Borja from having direct or indirect contact with his wife.

Wiseman warned Borja that he will be arrested and may lose his \$4,000 cash and property bond if he violates any of the bail conditions.

"The Department of Corrections usually gives me the keys and I usually lose them when jogging at the Suicide Cliff," the judge told the firefighter.

Wiseman also allowed two third-party custodians for Borja.

Assistant attorney general Brian Gallagher had opposed the bail modification, saying that Borja has shown himself unwilling to respect and obey

the court.

Wiseman said he considers Borja's case among the top 10 on his list of outrageous allegations. The judge noted that Borja appeared to have violated the temporary restraining order thrice.

Afraid for her life, the victim apparently stated she would move away from Tinian if Borja is released from jail.

Borja's lawyer, Ramon Quichocho, said his client will face these false allegations in court.

Borja was arrested on Monday for assault with a dangerous weapon, three counts of assault and battery, kidnapping, two counts of child abuse, interfering with a domestic violence report, violating an order for protection, two counts of disturbing the peace, contempt, and two counts of misuse of government vehicle.

The wife told police that Borja slapped her and choked her on April 30 while she was inside a car. Upon reaching their house, he allegedly pulled her hair, choked, then locked her in the room.

On May 28, Borja, while drunk, allegedly beat up the victim, then took their children aboard a Fire pickup truck.

In October last year on Saipan, Borja also allegedly beat up the victim while she was pregnant.

Two of their three children told police that they saw their father beating up their mother several times.

The two also said that their father beats them up using any object and shouts at them and their mother.

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The Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands reported a 50-percent occupancy rate among its 13-member hotels for May 2010, a 1-percent increase from May 2009.

HANMI said 42,470 of 84,196 available room nights were sold in May, compared

CNMI hotel occupancy rate at 50 percent in May

to 41,968 of 85,250 available room nights sold over the same period last year. Room rates were down slightly from \$96.13 last year to \$93.75 in May 2010.

For Calendar Year 2010, oc-

cupancy is averaging 66 percent and room rates are averaging \$95.59. This

compares to 65 percent occupancy and \$98.71 room rate over the same period last calendar year. "The situation is really quite desperate for Northern Marianas tourism," said HANMI chair Nick Ni-



Cop who fired gun in domestic spat gets 3 years, 6 mos. in jail

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A police officer who was charged with firing off his gun twice during a fight with his common-law wife was sentenced yesterday to three years and six months in prison.

Police Officer I Kelani Vincent B. Pangelinan was sentenced to seven years in prison, all suspended except for the first three years and six months, for the crime of assault with a dan-

gerous weapon.

The 21-year-old Pangelinan will be required to serve at least two years in prison before becoming eligible for parole.

After completing his sentence, he will be placed on supervised probation and barred from possessing any firearms.

Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman forfeited any contraband seized from Pangelinan as a result of his arrest. The contraband includes one Smith and Wes-

son handgun, three handgun magazines, and ammunition for .9mm, .357, and .38 caliber handguns.

Wiseman ordered Pangelinan to pay a \$200 fine, \$100 court assessment fee, plus probation fee. He was also required to perform 200 hours of community service.

The Office of the Attorney General charged Pangelinan with assault with a dangerous weapon, violating an order of protection, sexual assault, three counts of illegal posses-

sion of ammunition, assault and battery, criminal mischief, and kidnapping.

Pangelinan and his lawyer, Loren Sutton, entered a plea agreement with the government. He pleaded guilty to assault with a dangerous weapon. The remaining charges were dismissed.

The case arose from an incident on Feb. 28, 2010, when Pangelinan accused his wife of having an affair. He threw a wine bottle through a window

and took out a gun, firing off one blast above the victim's head, the bullet hitting the wall.

He shot another round past her left ear. He did not allow her to leave the room and forced her to have sex, accord-

Govt employee seeks OSHA help due to lack of accident insurance

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A government employee who was denied insurance coverage by the Worker's Compensation Commission has sought the help of the U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

Antonino S. Santos, 61, told *Saipan Tribune* that he approached the office of Ray Guerrero, OSHA project manager, to seek guidance with his situation.

Santos was involved in an accident while at work on April 15, when his finger was damaged by a table saw. He was forced to stop working for more than a month.

When he sought relief from WCC, his claim was denied due to the exclusion of his employer from the program. Santos is a maintenance worker at Koblerville Elementary School and an employee of the Public School System for 26 years now.

Santos said his decision to seek OSHA's help was prompted by his employer's inaction to provide him financial help.

"I was promised by the OSHA that they will look into my situation...and I am counting on their action," Santos told *Saipan Tribune*.

Guerrero refused to comment

Tinian public library set to begin outdoor summer films program

TINIAN—The Tinian Public Library, in cooperation with the Tinian Mayor's Office and the NMI Humanities Council, is pleased to announce the start of the summer film series, which includes films being shown at both the Tinian Public Library and an outdoor location, such as a public park or beach.

The summer program will consist of movies that are based on or adapted from books that are in the library's collection. The films slated to be featured range from the wildly popular Harry Potter series to long-time classics like Jane Austen's *Emma*, the movie adaptation of which is *Clueless*, and Lewis Carroll's *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*.

"Summertime is the perfect time for families to enjoy these types of events," said Tinian Mayor Ramon M. Dela Cruz.

flights and to promote the islands, the economy will continue to decline."

The Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands was established in 1985 as a professional forum for the hospitality industry of the Northern Mariana Islands. (**HANMI**)

ing to investigators.

Department of Public Safety Commissioner Santiago Tudela immediately suspended Pangelinan without pay and said he may likely be terminated if found guilty.

when contacted by *Saipan Tribune* yesterday, citing the confidentiality of the information.

Santos said he was also prompted to seek a solution to his problem in consideration of other government employees, majority of whom are dedicated and committed workers.

He said in his 26 years of employment, it was only recently that he learned about PSS not being covered by accident insurance.

Santos believes that he and his immediate superiors at the school have done all their part in order to get help and assistance.

The NMI Retirement Fund earlier disclosed that the central government's failure to remit the funds to the self-insurance fund is grounds for WCC coverage denial for any government employee who is injured or dies on the job.

According to Santos, this revelation is "very alarming."

The Fund sent numerous reminders and demand letters to all government agencies last year, informing them that their failure to remit to premium payments to the Worker's Compensation Commission will mean no employee from their department will get insurance coverage.

There are about 5,000-plus government employees not covered by WCC.



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Four CHC nurses pass certified nephrology exam

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Four registered nurses at the Commonwealth Health Center passed the Certified Nephrology Examination, bringing to five the number of certified nephrology nurses at the public hospital.

Jenitha L. Nadela, Dandy D. Gagui, Marissa P. Mafnas, and Carmen D. Hidalgo passed the examination they took on May 30. The four join Karlo Cesar T. Reyes, who was the first CHC nurse to pass the exam when he took it earlier this year.

Reyes, who took the exam in Orange, California, is the unit manager of CHC's dialysis center. Nadela, Gagui, Mafnas, and Hidalgo all work under him.

Saipan Tribune learned that this year marks the first time the U.S.-based Nephrology Nurs-

ing Certification Commission offered the test on island. A total of 12 nurses took the exam, administered at the Northern Marianas College.

Gagui, 37, has been working as staff nurse at the hospital in the last six years. He said he felt overwhelmed upon learning he had passed the exam since he had such a limited time to self-study and review for the comprehensive test. This father of two said he intends to stay at CHC.

Nadela, for her part, was elated. She has been serving the hospital for two years now. She originally worked at CHC six years ago but moved to the U.S. mainland before returning.

Without a formal review and considering the tedious work of nurses at the hospital, Nadela is thankful that four of them still managed to pass the test. She described the four-hour exam as

rigorous and tough.

Mafnas and Hidalgo also expressed satisfaction at passing the test. They said the certification they gained is proof of their capability and commitment to upgrade their knowledge and skills in their profession.

Mafnas, who has been a CHC employee for 11 years, is the acting unit manager of St. Jude Renal Care Dialysis, which has been contracted to conduct dialysis work for the hospital's patients.

MONETH G. DEPOSA

From left, Jenitha L. Nadela, Dandy D. Gagui, Marissa P. Mafnas, and Carmen D. Hidalgo recently passed the Certified Nephrology Examination administered by the Nephrology Nursing Certification Commission.



Fitial vetoes bill giving court marshals power to carry firearms, make arrests

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial vetoed a bill giving CNMI court marshals the authority to make arrests, serve processes and warrants, and carry firearms, saying the measure creates a new category of law enforcement officers with what appears to be functionally identical authority as police officers.

The governor said where the Department of Public Safety has established standards for training and certifications, these standards are absent in Senate Bill 17-16, House Draft 2.

SB 17-16, HD2, introduced by Senate President Paul A. Manglona (R-Rota), seeks to empower and define the authority, duties, responsibilities and functions of the Marshals Service Division of the CNMI

Judicial Branch.

"To simply state the marshals will undergo firearms training and certification to the same extent as police officers... does not qualify as establishing standards for such training and certification," Fitial said in his June 18 veto message to Manglona and House Speaker Froilan C. Tenorio (Cov-Saipan). Manglona and Tenorio are currently off-island.

Section 4 of SB 17-16, HD2 transfers existing employees, assets, jurisdiction, funding and any other matters to the CNMI Marshals Service Division from the CNMI Judicial Branch.

But the governor said the bill fails to identify new sources to fund collateral equipment, such as firearms or employment benefits. (*Haidee V. Eugenio*)



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Department of Public Health
Division of Public Health



Please be advised the Department of Health and Human Services has yet to publish a new poverty guideline. As a result, the 2009-2010 income guidelines (below) remains in effect until further notice.

ANNOUNCEMENT

WIC Income Eligibility Guidelines 2009-2010

On March 6, 2009, a Notice announcing the revised WIC Income Eligibility Guidelines was published in the Federal Register. The adjusted income eligibility guidelines are used by State agencies in determining the income eligibility of persons applying to participate in the WIC Program. WIC State agencies must implement the new guidelines effective July 1, 2009.

To be eligible on the basis of income, applicants' gross income (i.e. before taxes are withheld) must fall at or below 185 percent of the U.S. Poverty Income Guidelines (see below).

WIC Income Eligibility Guidelines (Effective from July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010)

48 Contiguous States, D.C., Guam and Territories

	Annual	Monthly	Twice-Monthly	Bi-Weekly	Weekly
1	20,036	1,670	835	771	386
2	26,955	2,247	1,124	1,037	519
3	33,874	2,823	1,412	1,303	652
4	40,793	3,400	1,700	1,569	785
5	47,712	3,976	1,988	1,836	918
6	54,631	4,553	2,277	2,102	1,051
7	61,550	5,130	2,565	2,368	1,184
8	68,469	5,706	2,853	2,634	1,317
Each Add'l Member Add	+6,919	+577	+289	+267	+134

A person or certain family members who participate in other benefits programs, such as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP-formerly the Food Stamp Program), or Medicaid automatically meet the income eligibility requirement. WIC Clinic: 664-4084.

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BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING
2nd Regular Meeting
Tuesday, July 06, 2010 - 10:00a.m.
CCAC, Capital Hill

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Adoption of 7/6/2010 Agenda
4. Adoption of May 22, 2010 Special Meeting Minutes
5. Chairman's Report
6. Executive Director's Report
7. Old Business
8. New Business
9. Miscellaneous
10. Announcement
11. Adjournment

/s/ Angel S. Hocog
Executive Director

/s/ Joseph M. Diaz
Chairman



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
State Board of Education
Public School System
P. O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950



INVITATION FOR BID PSS IFB 10-084

"GENERAL REPAIR FOR ROTA HIGH SCHOOL, ROTA JR. HIGH SCHOOL AND SINAPALO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL"

The Public School System and the State Board of Education are soliciting sealed bids for **General Repair of Rota High School, Rota Jr. High School and Sinapalo Elementary School** on Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The Scope of Work and project package are available beginning on July 1, 2010 Pacific Quick Print for a fee of \$75.90.

There will be a mandatory pre-bid conference on July 21, 2010 at 2:00 p.m. at Sinapalo Elementary School on Rota. Bids will not be accepted from any bidder who failed to attend this pre-bid conference. Questions may be submitted in writing to Fax No. (670) 323-1075 or emailed to Ms. Elizabeth S. Balajadia at lizb@emchen.com no later than July 27, 2010, 4:30p.m.

All bids must be in a sealed envelope marked **"IFB 10-084"** containing one (1) original with three (3) copies and submitted to the PSS Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor of the NMI Retirement Fund Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, no later than 9:00a.m., local time, August 5, 2010. If no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be publicly opened at 2:00 p.m. local time, August 10, 2010 in the 2nd Floor Conference Room, NMI Retirement Fund Building.

Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to Bid. Notices of Intent to Bid must be received by the Procurement Officer no later than 9:00 a.m. local time on August 5, 2010 and may be transmitted via fax to (670) 664-3791 or email to robert.florian@cnmipss.org. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and three copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than August 5, 2010 and must be received no later than August 17, 2010 in which case all bids will be opened at 2:00 p.m., August 20, 2010

This project is funded under the AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT (ARRA) with "Buy America" Provisions.

/s/ Rita A. Sablan, Ed. D.
Commissioner of Education

/s/ Robert Florian
Procurement Officer

MHS Class of 1970 presents Class of 2010 with a plaque

In celebration of its 40th anniversary, the Marianas High School class of 1970 presented a plaque of recognition to the MHS Class of 2010 yesterday.

With 122 members, the Class of 1970 was the first batch to graduate from MHS. They participated in the 2010 graduation ceremony by walking before the 2010 graduates. The valedictorian of the class of 1970 delivered inspirational remarks.

MHS principal Karen Borja said the plaque aims to acknowledge the support of the Class of 2010 and commemorates the years of excellence at MHS and its first graduating class.

John Nekaifes received the token of appreciation on behalf of the 242 members of the Class of 2010. He was joined by Borja and MHS vice principal Cheryl Cabrera.

Borja said the MHS Class of 1970 was joined by some alumni of Hopwood Junior High School who would have been members of the 1970 batch.

"MHS is trying to have a strong alumni association so many of the classes are coming back and trying to give back to their MHS community," said Borja.

Borja said that in the past, these MHS graduates have done activities such as fundraising and donations that benefits the school. "We do appreciate the support of all of our alumni and look forward to them working with our school," she added. *(Clarissa V. David)*



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

NMC seeks public input on new president's qualifications

The Northern Marianas College Search Committee is inviting public input on the qualifications of a new NMC president. Those who wish to submit input may attend the public meeting of the Search Committee at 11am on Friday, July 2, 2010, at the Board of Regents conference room at NMC. Additional meetings will be scheduled later. *(PR)*

Chamber sets monthly meeting

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce will hold its general membership meeting next Wednesday, July 7, at the Sandcastle of the Hyatt Regency Saipan. The speaker at the meeting will be Gary Liddle, who is heading up the newly-reestablished CNMI Small Business Development Center. Liddle will talk about the SBDC and its mission and services. Registration and lunch will begin at 11:30am, and the meeting will begin at 12pm. The meeting is \$15 for members, \$20 for guests of members, and \$25 for general public. *(SCC)*

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

July 1, 1999

Continental upgrades fleet

Continental Airlines announced plans to begin operating four new Boeing 737-800 aircraft from Guam beginning October 1999. The aircraft are the first of the nine new generation 737 scheduled to be delivered to Guam in the next 15 months. The 737 will initially replace four Boeing 757. The remaining deliveries will replace five Boeing 727. The deliveries are part of Continental's fleet rejuvenation plan, which will ultimately result in all new Boeing aircraft for the Guam operation and one of the youngest fleets in the Pacific. The 737 will have 155 total seats configured, with 14 first class and 141 coach class, which will allow replacement of the 727 without a loss in capacity.

CUC tasked to regulate prepaid phone cards

The Senate yesterday set the initial step in clamping down on illegal prepaid telephone service providers in the CNMI with the passage of a proposed law that will regulate the sector and protect the public from fraudulent businessmen on the island. Senate President Paul A. Manglona and Sen. Juan P. Tenorio co-sponsored the bill authorizing the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation to promulgate rules and regulations governing the operations of prepaid phone cards here. The measure will also assess registrations fees of \$200 for establishment of this type of business, while assessing penalties for illegal activities of up to \$5,000 and/or imprisonment of up to five years once the court finds the operator guilty of felony charges.

July 1, 2002

CPA tries to put fiscal house in order

The Commonwealth Ports Authority's revenue during the first eight months of Fiscal Year 2002 fell short of its original projection, prodding officials to look at a possible conversion of its Commonwealth Development Authority loan to a grant. CPA officials underscored Friday the need to revisit the agency's annual budget and explore alternatives that would impose additional safety nets to allow the ports authority to stabilize its fiscal status. Amendments were made on CPA's FY2002 budget, in addition to measures on how to increase the ports authority's income amid declining revenues generated by the seaport and airport divisions from October 2001 to May 2002.

NMI may lose \$30M in tobacco deal

The CNMI is in imminent danger of losing its \$30-million share in the \$206-billion Tobacco Master Settlement Agreement. The Commonwealth has only until today to pass House Bill 13-134 into law and, if it fails to meet today's deadline, this could cost the CNMI at least \$500,000, representing this year's allotment from the Master Settlement Agreement, to which the CNMI is a signatory. The bill, which was erroneously reported as having been passed already by the Legislature, remains pending at the Senate. The upper chamber had initially planned to pass House Bill 13-134 in a scheduled session last June 20 but the session was cancelled.

July 1, 2003

Lightning downs Rota's telephone lines

Thunder and lightning rocked Rota Friday afternoon, paralyzing telephone services in most of the island's Songsong village, Rota senator Paul A. Manglona said yesterday. The Rota resident said the abrupt, natural electric discharge damaged some equipment at the Verizon office in Songsong, cutting off phone services to the village since Friday. Telephone services have since been restored in the island's hospital and police station, though landlines in homes have not been functioning for days now, said Manglona.

'Disconnect Legislature, streetlights'

Two members of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. Board of Directors have issued a memorandum asking the CUC management to begin issuing notices of disconnection to appropriate government offices-including the Legislature-immediately. Board members Velma Ann Palacios and Joseph Torres recommended in a memorandum to CUC executive director Lorraine A. Babauta dated June 27 that the Legislature and road lights be disconnected. "We would like to pursue that recommendation [of the CUC comptroller] and insist that the corporation immediately send disconnection notices to the government offices or agencies concerned. We ask that you start with the government agencies that do not provide essential services. We would like to recommend that the first to be disconnected are the streetlights and the Legislature," said the members.



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
State Board of Education
Public School System
P. O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950



INVITATION FOR BID PSS IFB 10-085

"GENERAL REPAIR FOR TINIAN HIGH SCHOOL AND TINIAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL"

The Public School System and the State Board of Education are soliciting sealed bids for **General Repair of Tinian High School and Tinian Elementary School** on Tinian, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The Scope of Work and project package are available beginning on July 1, 2010 Pacific Quick Print for a fee of \$63.40.

There will be a mandatory pre-bid conference on July 22, 2010 at 10:00 a.m. at Tinian High School Library on Tinian. Bids will not be accepted from any bidder who failed to attend this pre-bid conference. Questions may be submitted in writing to Fax No. (670) 323-1075 or emailed to Ms. Elizabeth S. Balajadia at lizb@emchen.com no later than July 27, 2010, 4:30p.m.

All bids must be in a sealed envelope marked **"IFB 10-085"** containing one (1) original with three (3) copies and submitted to the PSS Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor of the NMI Retirement Fund Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, no later than 9:30a.m., local time, August 5, 2010. If no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be publicly opened at 9:30 a.m. local time, August 10, 2010 in the 2nd Floor Conference Room, NMI Retirement Fund Building.

Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to Bid. Notices of Intent to Bid must be received by the Procurement Officer no later than 9:30 a.m. local time on August 5, 2010 and may be transmitted via fax to (670) 664-3791 or email to robert.florian@cnmipss.org. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and three copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than August 5, 2010 and must be received no later than August 17, 2010 in which case all bids will be opened at 9:30 a.m., August 20, 2010

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/s/ Rita A. Sablan, Ed. D.
Commissioner of Education

/s/ Robert Florian
Procurement Officer

SSHS club hosts book-movie tie-in with *Eclipse* premiere

Over a hundred *Twilight* fans flocked to watch the local premiere of the movie *Eclipse* at Hollywood Theater Saipan early yesterday morning. Fans of all ages supported the traditional book movie tie-in event for Saipan Southern High School

Book Club.

This is the third time that SSHS Book Club hosted and organized the special screening of the movie. They continue the tradition to bring avid *Twilight* readers together and celebrate the opportunity to be

one of the first few people to watch the movie worldwide.

"If activities like these encourages teens to read, then I'm all for it," said Sudi Napalan, SSHS school librarian and SSHS Book Club adviser. "I think as an educator, even if



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Over a hundred *Twilight* fans watch the local premiere of the movie *Eclipse* at Hollywood Theater Saipan early yesterday morning.

SVES Young Farmers Club sets plant sale

Are you planning a summer garden? Do you want to be more self-sufficient? The hardest part is to get those seeds started. The San Vicente Young Farmers Club is ready to help.

The club will be having a plant sale this Saturday, July 3, between 8am and 12pm at the school's bus shelter.

"We have Red Lady papaya, hybrid (big)tomato, lime basil, spearmint, oregano, eggplant, pepper, peanut, green onions,



Lime basil

seedless tangerine and lemon plants. We also have Kennedy hibiscus and zinnia flowering plants for sale," the group said in a statement.

All plants are ready to plant or repot for one's summer garden at prices of only \$3 to \$5.

"Help support these hard-working students, grow your own healthy food and be a young farmer too! We will also have some mini-hydroponic systems to check out or buy," said Rick Gramlich of SVES.

All proceeds go back to SVES. (PR)

it is summer, we still need to seize the moment to provide fun activities, like these, for our students."

SSHS Book Club members actively promote reading to

their peers and one of them is through the movie-tie in events. Students have been sharing their thoughts on the SSHS Library Facebook discussion board.

The club acknowledged the support of SSHS principal Craig Garrison, William Santos, and the Hollywood Theater staff for their continued support. (PR)

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Option 4: Triple Occupancy
Complimentary daily breakfast buffet for 2 people
20% discount on breakfast buffet for 3rd person
Complimentary extra bed

- * Reservation in advance is required
- * ID must be presented upon check in
- * Discount does not apply for Sunday Brunch
- * This package is only applicable for Saipan and Guam residents
- * Number of pax occupying the room has to be informed while making reservation

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Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
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Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP 96950Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
Mark Rabago ASSISTANT EDITOR

MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Common sense needed in immigration cases

(c) 2010, The Dallas Morning News

Justice isn't always blind when it comes to immigration enforcement. U.S. authorities exercise apparently wide latitude to impose the letter of the law or inject compassion, especially in cases of political expediency. Too often, simple common sense doesn't seem to factor into the equation. Three recent cases illustrate the point.

Olivera Snyder and her sister, Jelena Boldt, were born in the former Yugoslavia and brought here as children by their parents in 1985. They know little of their Serbian homeland. Both married Americans, and Olivera has three American children. Through one of the stranger twists in U.S. immigration enforcement, the Dallas-area sisters are bracing for deportation, despite having filed all the required paperwork and completed every step of the process.

Their immigrant mother won permission to stay. They have no criminal history. Someone in the bowels of Immigration and Customs Enforcement decided it was time to close their cases and move on. Their lawyer says he can't get an explanation and describes the case as "one of the most disturbing departures from rational thinking I have ever witnessed."

Eric Balderas is a Harvard student who grew up in the United States and has virtually no memory of his early childhood before his parents brought him to Texas from Mexico. He lost his passport and wound up in the sights of an ICE official as he boarded a flight from San Antonio to Boston. Now he faces deportation. Harvard dignitaries are trying to help, but the 19-year-old's future hangs in limbo until a July 6 deportation hearing.

Herve Fonkou Takoulo is a Cameroonian facing deportation after losing an asylum bid. He and his American wife, Caroline Jamieson, are professionals in Manhattan. Jamieson wrote to President Barack Obama in a desperate attempt to stave off the deportation, and in apparent retaliation, two immigration agents went to the couple's house, mentioned the Obama letter and then took Takoulo away in handcuffs. An inquiry by The New York Times led to Takoulo's quick release.

Thousands of such cases never make it into the media spotlight, so there's no telling how many horror stories are out there. It shouldn't take a reporter's inquiry or an embarrassing news article to make immigration authorities recognize that these are human beings whose lives face irrevocable destruction.

Yes, we want a predictable and consistent system of immigration laws that apply equally to all. But common sense also must come into play. These three cases underscore the real human hardship created by America's broken immigration system and overburdened immigration courts. Comprehensive immigration reform, with tough but fair measures to help people attain legal status in this country, is the best way to break this chain of tragedy.

"The national debt is the biggest threat to national security."

**--Adm. Mike Mullen
Chairman of the
Joint Chiefs of
Staff**

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"We have met the enemy and he is us."

**--Pogo Possum,
comic strip character**



The joy of cutting grass

By STAN TINER
MCCLATCHY NEWSPAPERS

It seems as if I have spent a good part of my life cutting grass. The implements of my trade have traced the arc of technology across the decades, though my progression of machinery was always behind the curve.

The first was a hand push-reel mower whose power was solely provided by me, a skinny 9- or 10-year-old whose summer thoughts were more directed to sitting in the shade of the twin chinaberry trees at the front of our home, listening to Dizzy Dean's colorful calling of St. Louis Cardinals baseball, and perhaps sipping a cool lemonade, than to shearing the clover that covered the top of the little hill on which the house sat.

Devices such as the one I employed had already been around for the better part of a century, and the design was little improved over the period.

The simple reel was efficient, requiring only my own vigor to produce results. With the energy of one boy's back-and-forth motion, driving from the shoulder, and pushing the sharp reel ever forward, one was able to produce a shorn lawn in the course of a hot summer Saturday morning.

With any luck, I was able to catch a breeze blowing across my shady front porch, overlooking fences and pasture that sloped down to Highway I and its busy transit of cars heading south to Shreveport or north to Texarkana.

I remember regarding the lawn assignment as work, but by no means onerous. It was, after all, something that a man, like my dad, did, and the fact that I could do it, too, gave me a feeling of proud exhaustion and sweaty accomplishment.

Before long, I graduated to an electric mower which, when you think on it, was a somewhat laughable step on man's journey through time and grass. The mower was underpowered, and the blade would constantly come to a stop in the clover, and the little motor would emit an electronic hum that spoke the voice of impotence.

I am sure it will be hard to picture the system one would create to work around the problems presented by a couple of hundred feet of electric cord, and the constant movement necessary to navigate a successful cutting. The perpetual motion of cord and mower required a special rhythm and constant attention to the location of the former in relation to the path of the latter.

You will quickly understand the occupational hazard attached to such work.

The first paid work I accomplished in life was cutting the grass for our neighbor, Bess Zagst. I have never had a better boss in the years since. She provided me with tea or lemonade, and kindly advice. A wonderful cook, with a splendid range of dishes, she knew that among all things sweet, her egg custard pies were my favorite.

Far into my adulthood she dispatched these treats and I was always reminded of my first venture into commerce, and the receipt of cash and custard for my labor.

In time, grass cutting did become an intrusion into busy days that

try the souls of teenagers or young fathers, and later that of the children of the older father.

Through the years, the mowers became more powerful and their cut wider. Nonetheless, when you count up the hours and the weeks and the years, you realize that an amazing amount of time has been spent cutting grass.

Figuring two hours a week for 26 weeks a year, over 50 years I hit 2,600 hours. Expressed another way, that is the equivalent of 65 40-hour work weeks.

But Dad, as so often in my life, has given me a new perspective on grass cutting.

At 101, he no longer cuts the grass, though he did only a year ago, riding his old Craftsman riding mower over the same yard that I cut so many times in those wondrous, simple days of my youth.

The conversation had somehow turned to the yard, and army worms, and grass that needed mowing because rain and sun had conspired to make it grow high quickly.

Dad's eyes moistened with good memories spent in the honest labor that cutting a yard provides to a person of any age.

"I wish I could cut the grass," he said, with such earnest desire and conviction that I knew he was talking about a good deal more.

I knew that he was saying that the day will arrive for all of us who live long enough that something as mundane as cutting a yard may come to be one of the most desirable things for which we might wish. We often don't know to cherish such things until they are no longer available to us.

When the sun rose on Father's Day, I ate some shredded wheat with my father and finished off a second cup of coffee, and then fired up the Craftsman.

Although it was early, the yard felt like an oven, but every lap was like coming home to memories that you could only discover in the fulcrum of that experience.

We had planted every tree in the yard. The little longleaf pines that we had held, a dozen in one hand, are giant trees now. The oaks shade half the yard.

I cut around the muscadine arbor from which thousands of gallons have been harvested, and on whose jellies I have long feasted. Limbs on the big pear tree lay heavy with a crop that will need picking before long.

The figs are sparse, and only a few peaches show their faces on the trees that Dad has lovingly pruned and doctored over the years. They haven't been tended this year, and their condition attests to the neglect.

Dusty thoughts of all those years rode with me, and the time passed too quickly. Still, I wish Dad could cut the yard once more. I don't believe I will ever mow again without a sense of gratefulness for the job, for the sweat, for the time alone, for the thinking that takes place there, and for the memories of all the years and all the cut grass that stand along the roadside of years on the journey to now.

Stan Tiner is executive editor of the Sun Herald in Biloxi, Miss. Readers may send him e-mail at tiner@sunherald.com.

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Life transitions

One of the fascinating things I enjoy about flying is the ability to see the big picture and view the world in three dimensions. I remember returning to Dyess AFB from a refueling sortie and looking below where I could see San Angelo, Texas on one side of the cockpit, and small cars slowly moving like ants on a trail to our destination city, Abilene, on the other side. It took over an hour to drive by car, but I could easily see the entire distance that separated the two cities in one glance.

As normal, earth-bound beings, we look at a trip in the car as a slow, two-dimensional experience where we have a start, then move slowly from point-to-point along a path until we come to our final destination. On the interstate, we can gauge our progress by looking at the mile markers along the route; yet, while we are driving, we can only see what is directly in front of us, or where we just passed.

Life is somewhat similar, we have a beginning (birth) and an end (death), and between those two points we travel slowly enough through time so that we can only see what is immediately ahead of us, or where we just passed. However, if I could add an additional dimension to your perspective, say a metaphorical view of your life from 30,000 feet, you could easily see that life is a trip marked by specific transitions along your path. These transition points are significant moments in your life that gauge your growth and development, and you often use them as references or markers for all other events you experience.

Between the starting and ending marker, people experience other life transitions such as going to school, getting a job, finding that special someone and getting married, having and raising children, moving to a new location, retiring, and so forth. We often mark our calendars each year to celebrate or remember specific life transitions such as our birth, marriage, or the death of a loved one.

I'm stating what may seem like the obvious because the power of life transitions does not appear to be so obvious to most businesspeople. They tend to take the two-dimensional view of a prospect as someone who does or does not have a need right now for what they're selling. If they took the 30,000-foot perspective of a person, they would treat everyone differently and realize that even though a person doesn't have a need for their product at this immediate moment, there will come a point in time as they move along the path of life when that need is heightened and they will be highly qualified. This concept underscores the importance of providing excellent customer service to everyone because a person treated with respect and consideration—even though they aren't interested in buying from you now—will

seek you out when that need arises if you make it easy for them to find you.

For example, when two people are engaged to be married, they have a heightened need for things such as a ring, wedding cake, photographer, caterer, wedding dress, tuxedo, etc. Most businesspeople congregate right at the figurative road marker labeled "engaged" and they clamor for attention like a political road rally gaggle, trying to snag their share of the market as the couple passes by them.

What would happen if, instead, you could grab the attention of the engaged couple even before they meet each other, and you could create the desire early enough for them to want what you have when that special moment arrives? I brainstormed with several clients whose main clientele were engaged couples, and we came up with two strategies to not only separate

*A person treated
with respect and
consideration—even
though they aren't interested
in buying from you now—
will seek you out when
that need arises.*

them from their competition, but to also place them in front and position them as the obvious, best choice even before couples need their services.

One event that we planned was a Summer Bash party for high school and single, college-aged individuals. Our client, a wedding and senior portrait photographer, formed an advisory group of upcoming seniors from different high schools to help plan the party. Shirts were given to everyone with the Summer Bash logo on the front and the names and logos of the sponsoring businesses on the back. It was a huge success with hundreds of people attending, and getting a group photo sent to them to remember the event. It was so popular that it became a recurring annual

By RIK VILLEGAS

Special to the Saipan Tribune



Rik is a writer, marketing consultant and business instructor at Northern Marianas College. He can be contacted at RikVillegas@gmail.com, and you can comment on this article at <http://rikv.blogspot.com>.

event that attracted people from many different cities, and our client became THE preferred wedding and senior portrait photographer in the region.

The second event was a bridal fair. Even though there was one held every year, some of my clients complained that it was lame and it needed more pizzazz, so we created our own. It was held at a client's reception center, and another client, whose daughter was a former state beauty pageant winner, called in some favors to have professional models showcase the bridal gowns and tuxedos to hip music. All of the businesses gave out "bridal bucks" with each purchase to help promote the event and then use during the fair to bid for items at an auction. The bridal fair was so popular that people had to park several blocks away from the reception center, and the police were called to direct traffic. It not only attracted a lot of engaged couples, but also many of their single friends and family who would one day get married. It became THE bridal show to attend each year and it helped to separate my clients from their competition when individuals became engaged.

These are just a couple of ways to keep prospects thinking about you before they need what you have. There are many other methods you can use to position your business in a way that will make you the most obvious choice when they approach a life transition marker and have a need for what you have to sell.

I've put together the best of what I've studied and done to create something that has the potential to help a business dominate their market. Using the analogy I've mentioned throughout this article, your best position is to be invited to become the driver of the vehicle as people approach a life transition marker. Not only will they see you as the best, most obvious choice, but they will respect your professional advice because you've become the person or business they know, like and trust, even before they have a need for what you're selling. If you'd like to place yourself in that position, then stay tuned for some other ways that have a way of putting you in the right place when people need what you have during their life transitions.

Alzheimer's as seen by a patient who is also a doctor

By ARTHUR RIVIN
LOS ANGELES TIMES

I am a retired physician and an emeritus professor of medicine. I also have Alzheimer's disease.

Before my diagnosis, I was certainly familiar with the disease, having seen patients with Alzheimer's over the years in my internal medicine practice. But I was slow to suspect my own affliction.

Now that I've been diagnosed, I can trace my problems back some 10 years, to when I was 76. I had been chairing a monthly program in medical ethics, and I knew most of the speakers and found it easy and enjoyable to introduce them. Then, suddenly, I found I had to rely on prepared material to make the introductions. I started to forget names, though never faces. These kinds of lapses are common in aging brains, so it was easy for me to write them off to "senior moments."

In the following years, I had coronary surgery and then two TIAs (transient ischemic attacks), or small strokes. My neurologist attributed my problems to them, but my mind continued to deteriorate even though I had no more strokes. The final blow was the occasion one year ago when I was receiving a citation for service in my hospital. I stood up to thank the presenters and found that I could not say a word.

It was my wife who insisted I go to the doctor for a diagnosis. As much as I was in denial and tried to dismiss my lapses as normal aging (doctors are often not willing patients), she knew something was wrong. My internist put me through a few memory tests in the office and then ordered a PET scan of the brain, which predicts Alzheimer's with 95 percent accuracy.

After the diagnosis, I was started on a medicine called Aricept, which has been used for many years and which has many side effects. I had two of them—bad diarrhea and appetite loss. I'd had a few Alzheimer's patients in my practice who had taken this

medicine with no benefit, so I wasn't expecting much. I wanted to abandon it because of the side effects, but my doctor urged me to continue. The side effects disappeared and another drug, Namenda, was added. These drugs are by no means miracle cures, and in many patients they have little effect. I was one of the rare lucky ones.

In two months I was much better, and I am now close to normal. At my worst, I had difficulty speaking, did not know the names of my grandchildren or my doctor, could not add or subtract or find my way home. Now I can do all these things.

We've come a long way in our understanding of the disease since Dr. Alois Alzheimer, a German physician, first established a link in the early 20th century between dementia and the presence of plaques and tangles of an unknown material. That material is now known to be the accumulation of a peptide called Beta-amyloid. The leading hypothesis for the mechanism of Alzheimer's disease is that Beta-amyloid accumulates in brain cells, leading to neurodegeneration. Some pharmaceutical approaches are now targeted at clearing this protein from cells. However, amyloid plaques can be detected only in autopsy, so they have been associated only with people who had full-blown Alzheimer's symptoms. It is unknown whether these are the earliest biomarkers of the disease. Despite years of study, there is still so much we don't know.

But there are also things we are learning, some of them from personal journeys like my own. Since my improvement, I have developed a list of insights I'd like to share with others facing memory problems. Carry a small book and write notes whenever there's something you want to recall later. When you cannot remember a name, make a joke and ask the person to repeat it, then write it down. Read books. Take walks. If you cannot walk, exercise in bed. Draw and paint. Garden, if you can. Do puzzles and games. Try new things. Organize your day. Learn to prepare food, eat, dress, wash and go to bed in an efficient way. Eat a

healthful diet that includes fish twice a week, fruits and vegetables and omega-3 fatty acids. A reliable and good-humored book on a serious subject is "The Memory Bible" by Dr. Gary Small.

Don't withdraw from your friends and your family. This is advice I had to learn the hard way. Afraid of being pitied, I tried to keep my condition a secret, and that meant pulling away from people I cared about. But now that I've decided to be open, I've been gratified to see how accepting people are and how willing to assist.

For help with your own or a loved one's severe memory failure, the best source is the Alzheimer's Association, with offices in most cities and a central office in Chicago. It has information about caregivers, treatments and research, and it exists to help. Its latest information is sobering. There are currently 5.3 million Americans with the disease. It affects one in eight people over 65, and almost half of those over 85. The number of people in the U.S. with Alzheimer's is expected to double by 2030.

This rapidly growing problem has prompted pharmaceutical companies to join together in 2004 with the National Institutes of Health to form a partnership called the Alzheimer's Disease Neuroimaging Initiative. It is developing clinical trials and freely exchanging information about its results. Its findings will be reported to the public in July.






I know that I, like every other human, will eventually die. So I made myself aware of the documents that I needed to examine and sign while I was still able and alert, things like advance directives, living wills and POLSTs (physician's orders for life-sustaining treatment). I've tried to make sure that those who love me know my wishes. When I do not know who I am, or recognize anyone, and I am incapacitated with no chance of improvement, I want comfort and palliative care only.

Arthur Rivin practiced internal medicine in Los Angeles and is a professor emeritus at UCLA. He wrote this for the Los Angeles Times.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
				
Partly cloudy with isolated showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms. East winds around 10 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms. East winds around 10 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms. East winds around 10 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲ 89° ▼ 79°	▲ 89° ▼ 79°	▲ 89° ▼ 79°	▲ 89° ▼ 78°	▲ 89° ▼ 78°

Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	▲ 86 ▼ 79
Palau	Showers	▲ 85 ▼ 78
Yap	Showers	▲ 87 ▼ 77
Chuuk	Mostly Sunny	▲ 83 ▼ 76
Pohnpei	Showers	▲ 86 ▼ 74
Kosrae	Sunny	▲ 90 ▼ 78
Majuro	Rain	▲ 85 ▼ 77

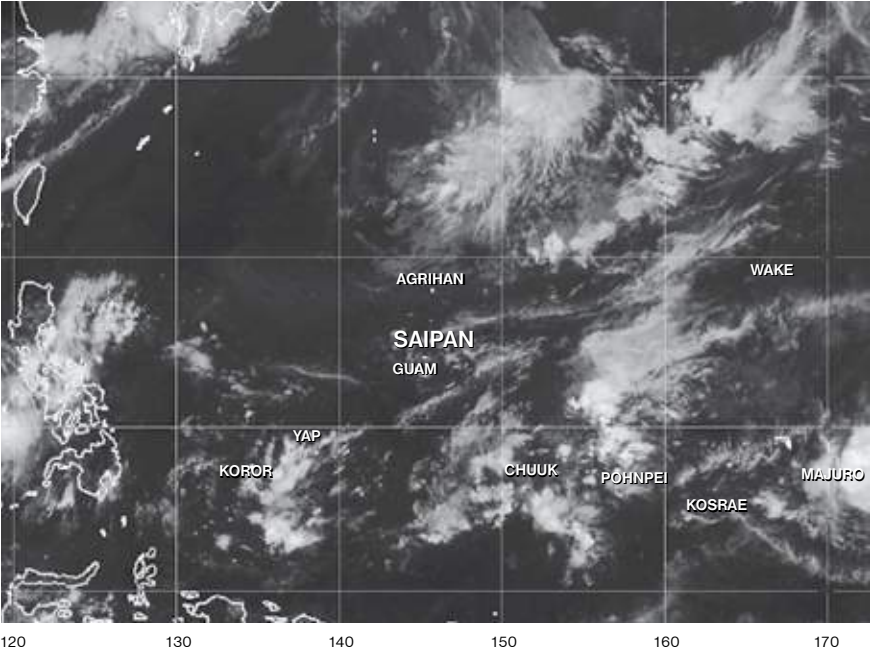
Around The Globe

Auckland	Mostly Sunny	▲ 58 ▼ 51
Beijing	Thundershowers	▲ 90 ▼ 75
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲ 87 ▼ 81
Honolulu	Sunny	▲ 87 ▼ 75
London	Partly Cloudy	▲ 81 ▼ 65
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲ 79 ▼ 62
Manila	Thundershowers	▲ 91 ▼ 82
Melbourne	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 53 ▼ 45
Miami	Thundershowers	▲ 92 ▼ 80
New York	Sunny	▲ 80 ▼ 61
Osaka	Thunderstorms	▲ 85 ▼ 74
Paris	Partly Cloudy	▲ 90 ▼ 70
Pusan	Thundershowers	▲ 77 ▼ 71
Rome	Sunny	▲ 87 ▼ 69
Salem	Partly Cloudy	▲ 73 ▼ 50
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲ 62 ▼ 52
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	▲ 88 ▼ 74
Tokyo	Thundershowers	▲ 81 ▼ 74
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	▲ 82 ▼ 66

Tides

Saipan Harbor				
5:11 AM	Today	Low Tide:	1.1 Feet	
9:44 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.6 Feet	
4:53 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.1 Feet	
11:43 PM	Today	igh Tide:	1.8 Feet	

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 30, 2010
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Upper-level divergence east of an upper-level low is generating scattered showers over Minami Tori Shima within 110 miles of a line from 20N149E to 25N155E. Trade-wind convergence is producing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms over Koror within 140 miles of a line from 4N130E to 9N135E. A surface trough extends southwestward from 11N151E to 5N146E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are located just northwest of Chuuk within an area bounded by a line from 5N142E to 14N148E to 14N152E to 5N152E back to 5N142E. Another surface trough northwest of the Marshall Islands stretches southwestward from 14N170E to 5N165E. Scattered showers are found north of Majuro within 100 miles of a line from 14N171E to 9N180.

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:50 AM	6:51 PM
Friday	5:51 AM	6:51 PM
Saturday	5:51 AM	6:51 PM
Sunday	5:51 AM	6:51 PM
Monday	5:51 AM	6:52 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	10:08 PM	9:32 AM
Friday	10:43 PM	10:18 AM
Saturday	11:17 PM	11:04 AM
Sunday	11:53 PM	11:51 AM
Monday		12:39 AM

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 - SAMUT SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
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 - Fax: (670) 235-3740
 - Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 27, 2010

DEPARTURES	ARRIVALS
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM C09597 5:00am 5:30am 1, 5	GUAM-ROTA (ROP) C09598 6:30pm 7:00pm 4, 7
SAIPAN-GUAM C09317 4:25am 5:15am Daily C09313 8:30am 9:20am Daily C09601 12:10pm 1:00pm 1, 4, 5, 7 C09603 3:05pm 3:55pm Daily C09605 6:35pm 7:25pm Daily C09599 9:35pm 10:25pm Daily	GUAM-SAIPAN C09316 2:45am 3:35am Daily C09596 7:00am 7:50am Daily C09600 10:05am 10:55am Daily C09602 1:40pm 2:30pm 1, 4, 5, 7 C09604 5:10pm 6:00pm Daily C09606 8:10pm 9:00pm Daily
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT) DL287 5:55am 8:35am Daily DL297 3:35pm 6:15pm Daily DL289 4:35pm 7:15pm Daily	NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN DL290 10:00am 2:35pm Daily DL298 10:30am 3:05pm Daily DL288 8:40pm 1:15am+1 Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS) OZ608 3:20am 6:50am 1, 5	BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN OZ607 9:00pm 2:20am+1 4, 7
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN) OZ604 2:20am 6:10am 1 OZ604 2:50am 6:30am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 OZ606 3:30pm 7:00pm 2, 4, 6, 7	SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN OZ605 9:00am 2:30pm 2, 4, 6, 7 OZ603 7:40pm 1:10am+1 7 OZ603 8:10pm 1:40am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG) FM844 2:50am 5:40am 2, 6	SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN FM843 7:15pm 1:50am+1 1, 5
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN) CZ3008 3:30am 6:40am 2, 6	GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN CZ3007 7:30pm 2:40am+1 1, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL) OZ604/701 2:20am 11:25am 1 via ICN OZ604/701 2:50am 11:25am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN OZ606/703 2:20am 11:00pm 1 via ICN OZ606/703 2:50am 11:00pm 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN OZ608/705 3:20am 12:10am+1 1, 5 via PUS C09317/891 4:25am 9:45am 6 via GUM C09603/893 3:05pm 9:10pm 3, 5 via GUM-Palau C09603/933 3:05pm 8:40pm Daily via GUM	MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN OZ704/605 12:10am 2:30pm 2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN OZ706/607 3:35am 2:20am+1 4, 7 via PUS C0890/9606 10:55am 9:00pm 6 via GUM OZ702/603 12:45pm 1:10am+1 7 via ICN OZ702/603 12:45pm 1:40am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN PR110/C09596 10:00pm 7:50am+1 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM C0892/9596 10:10pm 7:50am+1 3, 5 via GUM-Palau C0934/9596 10:55pm 7:50am+1 Daily via GUM
SAIPAN-HONG KONG OZ604/721 2:20am 11:45am 1 via ICN OZ604/721 2:50am 11:45am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN OZ606/749 3:30pm 11:00pm 4, 6, 7 via ICN C09603/909 3:05am 9:30pm 1, 5 via GUM	HONG KONG-SAIPAN OZ724/605 12:30am 2:20pm 2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN OZ750/605 1:00am 2:20pm 2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN OZ722/603 1:15pm 1:10am+1 7 via ICN OZ722/603 1:15pm 1:40am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN C0910/9596 10:35pm 7:50am+1 1, 5 via GUM

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CZ: China Southern; CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; PR: Philippine Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota			
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily
Rota-Saipan			
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily
Guam-Rota			
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily
Rota-Saipan			
	17:50	18:20	Daily
Saipan-Rota			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily
Rota-Guam			
	10:20	10:45	Daily
Saipan-Rota			
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily
Rota-Guam			
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily
Saipan-Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily
Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 113	11:40	11:50	Daily
FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Tinian-Saipan			
FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Lecture series to begin with focus on immigration issues

This year's "Law in the Community Lecture Series" will kick off on Thursday next week, July 8, 2010, at the American Memorial Park Auditorium, with Professor Rose Cuisson Villazor from Hofstra University of Law in New York spotlighting contemporary immigration issues.

The free lecture, titled "Understanding Preemption and Immigration Law," will start at 6pm.

Villazor will discuss the U.S. Congress' complete control over immigration law, which dates back over 100 years to the Supreme Court's decision in *Chae Chan Pig v. United States*. She will also examine the evolution of the preemption doctrine, and how federal and state/local governments interact to address the rights and privileges of non-citizens residing in the United States.

The "Law in the Community Lecture Series" is a four-part program open to the general public. Members of the legal community who attend the lectures can receive continuing legal education credits. Each presentation will begin with a lecture by a visiting law school professor, followed by an inter-

active audience question and answer session.

The second lecture will be held in the American Memorial Park Auditorium on July 14, 2010, at 6pm. Professor Robert J. Desiderio of the University of New Mexico will lecture on business ethics and public expectations of the business community's role in society. The lecture will examine current business practices, and what lessons we have (or should have) learned from the "Great Recession" currently unfolding.

Desiderio will also present the third lecture, this time in the Hillblom Library at the Guma' Hustisia on Thursday, July 15, at 11:30am. Desiderio will examine business ethics issues in a broader historical context. Starting with the 20th century and the "robber baron" era, he will examine the public's opinion of whether large corporate businesses have a broader role in society than merely maximizing profits.

Concluding the series, Villazor and Desiderio will conduct a seminar on the U.S. Constitution for Public School System teachers and interested members of the public and legal community. This discussion will be held July 16, 2010,

at 12pm, also in the Hillblom Library at the Guma' Hustisia in Susupe. Principal questions to the understanding of the Constitution will be addressed, including: Who were the men who wrote the Constitution and what were their motivations? What is a constitution and what role does it play in governance? What has made the U.S. Constitution durable and what are the challenges to it today? Finally, can the U.S. Constitution remain "modern" and will it meet the "test of time"?

The Law and the Community Lecture Series is presented by the Northern Marianas Judiciary Historical Society and the CNMI Judiciary, with funding support from the Northern Mariana Islands Council for the Humanities. The lecture series goal is to introduce the Commonwealth community to several timely legal topics that stimulate critical thinking, increase discussion, and result in a better informed community capable of reaching practical solutions to its challenges.

For further information about "The Law in the Community Lecture Series - 2010," contact Jim Stowell, the Northern Marianas Judiciary Historical Society's executive director, at 236-9716. (PR)



CAMP GLOW 2010 Girls' camp in Pohnpei a 'sunny' success



The biggest crowd-pleaser was the informative HIV/AIDS puppet show from the peer educators at Public Health.

Girls and women from all around Pohnpei took over Nihco Marine Park from June 8 to 11 for the 6th annual Camp Girls Leading Our World, or GLOW.

This year's health-themed Camp GLOW welcomed 150 participants who hailed from communities in Kitti, Madolenihmw, Uh, and Sokehs, including a group from the outer island of Pakin. Among the participants were 63 recently graduated 8th grade girls, 10 Pohnpeian female counterparts, several groups of guest speakers, and many Peace Corps volunteers and staff.

The campers enjoyed presentations from the Island Food Community of Pohnpei, the Department of Mental Health, and the Department of Public Health. Presenters educated the girls on good nutrition and lifestyle habits in a va-

riety of ways, focusing on key issues like substance abuse, coping with stress, and sexual/reproductive health. The biggest crowd-pleaser was the informative HIV/AIDS puppet show from the peer educators at Public Health. A panel of successful Pohnpeian women opened up about their lives and answered the girls many questions as well.

In addition to the presentations, the girls participated in a variety of activities, including group discussions, organized games, arts and crafts, a sing-a-long, a talent show, and a hands-on nutrition lesson. They also had ample time to meet new friends and future classmates while talking in the *nahs* houses and playing in the water during their free time.

Hosting the four days of education and fun were nine Peace Corps volunteers who,

along with Peace Corps staff members and community affiliates, make up the Gender and Development Committee of Pohnpei. GAD is a non-profit NGO, founded by Peace Corps and present in all Peace Corps posts worldwide that focuses on empowerment and gender awareness for all people.

Many generous donors made this year's Camp GLOW possible, including AusAID and the Australian Embassy, Island Research Education Initiative, Palm Terrace, Ray & Dors, XIX, Nihco Marine Park and Ace Office Supply.

Camp GLOW is a worldwide Peace Corps program held in a diversity of countries, from Romania to the Dominican Republic. After this year's success, GAD Pohnpei is enthusiastic about next year's Camp GLOW and is currently looking for potential funding. (PR)



PIC DONATES TO BOY SCOUTS

Pacific Islands Club donates six television sets to the CNMI Boy Scouts of America in Saipan, Tiinian and Rota. Photos shows, from left, PIC executive administrative assistant Vicky Benavente, Calistro I. Reyes, island director, CNMI Boy Scouts of America; and Melodino Candari, PIC Housekeeping supervisor.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

Happy birthday Cindy Briones! Greetings come from your FHB family and friends!

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Happy birthday greetings go out to Nanay Leonor De la Paz, who is celebrating her special day today, July 1, 2010! Greetings from daughters Debbie and Irene, and son Jonmarch and grandsons DJ and Eon.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

SSHS student joins national scholars group

The National Society of High School Scholars recently announced that Saipan Southern High School student Donna Mae Caparas Formalejo from Saipan has been selected for membership. The Society recognizes top scholars and invites only those students who have achieved superior academic excellence. The announcement was made by NSHSS founder and chair Claes Nobel, a senior member of the family that established the Nobel Prizes.

"On behalf of NSHSS, I am honored to recognize the hard work, sacrifice, and commitment that Donna Mae has demonstrated to achieve this exceptional level of academic excellence," said Nobel. "Donna Mae is now a member of a unique community of scholars—a community that represents our very best hope for the future."



Formalejo

"Our vision is to build a dynamic international organization that connects members with meaningful content, resources, and opportunities," said NSHSS president James Lewis. "We aim to help students like Donna Mae build on their academic successes and enhance the skills and desires to have a positive impact on the global community."

Membership in NSHSS enti-

ties qualified students to enjoy a wide variety of benefits, including scholarship opportunities, academic competitions, free events, member-only resources, publications, participation in programs offered by educational partners, online forums, personalized recognition items, and publicity honors.

Formed in 2002, The National Society of High School Scholars recognizes academic excellence at the high school level and encourages members of the organization to apply their unique talents, vision, and potential for the betterment of themselves and the world. Currently, there are more than 300,000 Society members in over 120 countries. NSHSS provides scholarship opportunities for deserving young people. For more information about NSHSS, visit www.nshss.org. (PR)

Business

Cleanup ships idled as storms rattle Gulf region

GRAND ISLE, La. (AP)—

The crashing waves and gusting winds churned up by Tropical Storm Alex put the Gulf oil spill largely in Mother Nature's hands Tuesday. Regardless of whether the storm makes things worse or even better, it has turned many people fighting the spill into spectators.

Oil-scooping ships in the Gulf of Mexico steamed to safe refuge because of the rough seas, which likely will last for days. Officials scrambled to reposition boom to protect the coast, and had to remove barges that had been blocking oil from reaching sensitive wetlands.

Those operations could soon get a boost, as the U.S. accepted offers of help from

12 countries and international organizations. Japan, for instance, was sending two skimmers and boom.

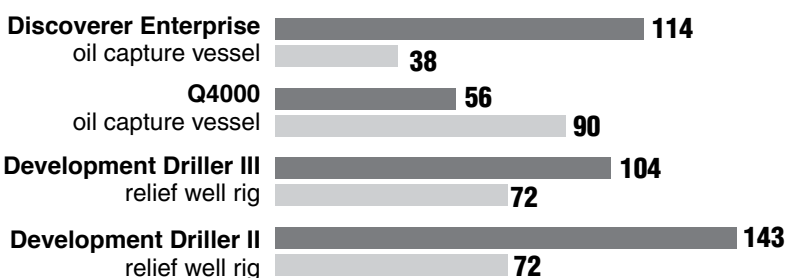
Alex is projected to stay far from the spill zone and is not expected to affect recovery efforts at the site of the blown-out well. But the storm's outer

Evacuating oil spill site

How much time officials estimate it will take vessels working at the spill site to disconnect and get to port in advance of a hurricane:

• **Disconnect begins** 120 hours before winds forecast to reach gale force (46 mph/ 74 kph) at the well site

Number of hours needed to: **Exit** **Reconnect** (once ship is at sea)



• **About 14 days** Estimated time it will take from disconnect to reconnect; oil would be gushing freely from well

Source: Deepwater Horizon Incident Joint Information Center
Graphic: Judy Treible

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edges complicated the cleanup as the oil turned whitecaps red.

Waves were as high as 12 feet in parts of the Gulf, according to the National Weather Service.

U.S. Coast Guard Lt. Dave French said all skimming efforts had been halted for now off the Louisiana coast. Wayne Hebert,

who helps manage skimming operations for BP PLC, said all nearshore skimmers were idled off the coasts of Florida, Alabama and Mississippi.

"Everyone is in because of weather, whether it's thunderstorms or (high) seas," Hebert said.

French said workers were using the time off the water to replenish supplies and perform maintenance work.

In Grand Isle, dozens of boats, from skiffs up to huge shrimp boats, were tied up at the docks, rocked by waves even in the sheltered marina.

"It's really rough out there," said Coast Guardsman Zac Crawford. "We want the oil cleaned up, but we want people to be safe. We don't want to lose anyone working on the spill."

On the beach, cleanup workers struggled with wind that blew sand into their eyes and mouths and humidity that let the sand stick to their skin.

Farther inland, local officials worried the weather could hamper efforts to keep the oil out of Lake Pontchartrain, which so far has not been affected. The brackish body of water, connected to the Gulf by narrow passes, is a recreational haven

for metropolitan New Orleans.

Authorities worried that underwater currents and an easterly wind might drive a 250-square-mile oil slick north of the Chandeleur Islands toward the lake.

"We're very concerned because of the weather," said Suzanne Parsons, spokeswoman for St. Tammany Parish, which is on the north side of the lake. "That means they can't get out and start working it. This may be the first test of our outer lines of defense."

Meanwhile, Jefferson Parish Council member Chris Roberts said the oil was entering passes Tuesday at Barataria Bay, home to diverse wildlife. A day earlier, barges that had been placed in the bay to block the oil were removed because of rough seas. Boom was being displaced and had to be repositioned, he said in an e-mail.

The loss of skimming work combined with 25 mph gusts driving water into the coast has left beaches especially vulnerable. In Alabama, the normally white beaches were streaked with long lines of oil, and tar balls collected on the sand.

US auto sales seen slowing with recovery in doubt

DETROIT (AP)—When it comes to car shopping, Americans are tapping the brakes.

Forecasters think U.S. sales of cars and light trucks have slowed in June after months of improvement. It's another sign that people are beginning to doubt the economic recovery with unemployment still high.

"The two big issues with consumers right now are employment growth and income growth, and they're not seeing much of either," said George Pipas, Ford Motor Co.'s top sales analyst.

Three firms that track auto sales predict automakers will report a sales decline of anywhere from 9.5 to 12 percent from May to June when they

turn in their figures on Thursday. A double-digit decline would be the biggest monthly drop since January.

There is good news for shoppers: If sales keep falling, automakers will be more tempted to try to lure car buyers in with low-interest financing, rebates and sweet lease deals.

The U.S. economy has been sending mixed messages for months, but lately the signs are worse. Last week, the government lowered its estimate for first-quarter economic growth because people spent less than previously thought. On Tuesday, a widely watched index showed a jarring drop in consumer confidence, with June

down nearly 10 points.

Unemployment has been stuck around 10 percent all year. While the pace of layoffs has slowed, the number of people seeking first-time unemployment benefits is about the same as in January. And sales of new and previously owned homes fell last month.

All this makes potential car buyers uneasy.

"People are just nervous about signing up for a three-year loan, so I think people who normally would've cycled out of a car a little sooner are deciding, 'Hey, I'll just drive this car for another year,'" said Tom Folliard, CEO of used-car dealership chain CarMax Inc.

Democrats drop fee from bank bill to secure votes

WASHINGTON (AP)—Top Democratic House and Senate negotiators who worked out a deal on a sweeping overhaul of financial regulations regrouped Tuesday to eliminate a \$19 billion fee on banks that had threatened to derail the legislation.

Eager to salvage one of President Barack Obama's legislative priorities, lawmakers replaced the bank fee with money generated by ending the \$700 billion bank bailout and by increasing bank premiums on deposit insurance.

The bill's fate was thrown into doubt this week following the death of Sen. Robert Byrd, D-W.Va., and after Republican Sen. Scott Brown of Massachusetts vowed to abandon his support for the bill if it retained the assessment on large banks and

hedge funds. The money would have been used to pay for the costs of the legislation.

Uncertainty surrounding the bill raised doubts about Congress' ability to complete the legislation by July 4—a target for both the White House and Democratic leaders. The House was still expected to vote on the bill Wednesday. But Senate Banking Committee Chairman Chris Dodd said he didn't expect a vote in the Senate until after a weeklong July 4 break.

The legislation would rewrite financial regulations by putting new limits on bank activities, creating an independent consumer protection bureau and adding new rules for largely unregulated financial instruments.

Besides Brown, Republican Sens. Olympia Snowe and Su-

san Collins of Maine, both of whom also voted for the Senate bill last month, said they also had qualms about the bank assessment that negotiators inserted into the bill last week.

Without Byrd's vote, the support of the three Republicans would be crucial to overcome 60-vote procedural hurdles that could defeat the legislation. Only four Republicans for the Senate version of the bill last month.

Seeing nearly a year of work crumbling, Democrats scrambled to eliminate the bank fee and keep at least three of the Republicans on board.

Dodd, D-Conn., said he ran the proposal past the three Republicans to make sure they would support it. "But obviously until they actually cast a vote, you never know," he said.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

House rejects extension of unemployment benefits

WASHINGTON (AP)—With Republicans citing concerns about the growing national debt, the House rejected a bill Tuesday to extend unemployment benefits for people who have been out of work for long stretches. The House, however, is expected to vote on the bill again as early as Wednesday. And Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid filed a motion Tuesday evening to force a vote by Thursday to extend the benefits. Without an extension, payments would continue to phase out for more than 200,000 people a week. The last extension expired at the end of May. House Democrats said more than 1 million people have already lost benefits. Congressional Democrats have been trying for weeks to pass the extension as part of a larger tax and spending package, but the larger bill stalled in the Senate. On Tuesday, House Democrats brought up a stand-alone bill on unemployment benefits.

Google scrambles to save Internet license in China

BEIJING (AP)—China is threatening to revoke Google's business license over the company's decision to redirect Chinese traffic to computers in Hong Kong that are not governed by the communist government's censorship practices. The latest skirmish between Beijing and the Internet search leader threatens to cripple the

company in one of the Web's biggest markets. Google agreed Tuesday to dismantle the virtual bridge to its Hong site that was created in March, but it was unclear whether that will be enough to stay in business in China. The license is required for the company to continue providing its mapping and music services in China. Google hopes to keep its license by turning its Chinese website into a so-called "landing page" anchored by a link that users must click on to send visitors to the Hong Kong search service. The company has no plans to revert back to its previous practice of omitting search results that the Chinese government considers subversive or pornographic.

Oil hovers below \$76 as stock markets sell off

SINGAPORE (AP)—Oil prices hovered below \$76 a barrel Wednesday in Asia as plunging stock markets undermined the confidence of crude traders, offsetting signs of improving U.S. demand. Benchmark crude for August delivery was down 13 cents to \$75.81 a barrel at midday Singapore time in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. The contract fell \$2.31, or 3 percent, to settle at \$75.94 on Tuesday. All major Asian stock markets fell Wednesday, following a 2.7 percent drop in the Dow Jones industrial average. Investors were dismayed that the Conference Board's Consumer Confidence Index dropped sharply in June and by more than economists had expected.

STOCK Portfolio

ASIAN MARKETS

AUSTRALIA 4,307.20 Down 63.40 (-1.45%)	HONG KONG 20,129.30 Down 119.60 (-0.59%)	JAKARTA 2,885.42 Down 7.95 (-0.27%)
TOKYO 9,365.38 Down 205.29 (-2.14%)	K. LUMPUR 1,315.20 Down 4.64 (-0.35%)	MANILA 3,372.71 Up 8.81 (+0.26%)
SINGAPORE 2,812.27 Down 18.07 (-0.64%)	SEOUL 1,691.61 Down 16.15 (-0.95%)	BANGKOK 799.81 Up 0.72 (+0.09%)

LEADING INDICATORS

DOW
 9,870.30
 -268.22

NASDAQ
 2,135.18
 -85.47

S&P
 1,041.24
 -33.33

MONEY MARKET

Australian Dollar	1.176
British Pound	0.6643
Canadian Dollar	1.0544
Chinese Renmbi	6.796
Euro	0.8199
Hong Kong Dollar	7.7865
Indian Rupee	46.485
Indonesian Rupiah	9076.25
Japanese Yen	88.545
Malaysian Ringgit	3.267
New Zealand Dollar	1.4448
Philippine Peso	46.6
Singapore Dollar	1.4034
South Korean Won	1235.012
Swiss Franc	1.0821
Taiwan Dollar	32.24
Thailand Baht	32.445

In U.S. dollar terms

Source: Associated Press

Nation

Gun law challenges likely after high court ruling

WASHINGTON (AP)—State or local gun laws that prohibit people from carrying firearms outside the home and onerous registration requirements are the most likely to be struck down by judges following the Supreme Court's latest decision supporting the right to keep and bear arms.

An explosion of cases will keep courts busy for years defining gun control's new limits now that the high court has ruled that wherever they live, Americans have a right to possess guns, at least for self-defense in the home.

Justice Samuel Alito, author of the majority opinion Monday, dismissed "doomsday proclamations" that all gun laws would be struck down. Alito essentially repeated the formulation used by Justice Antonin Scalia two years ago that the court was not calling into question "long-standing prohibitions on the possession of firearms by felons or the mentally ill, or laws forbidding the carrying of firearms in sensitive places such as schools and government

buildings."

But the justices left a lot of ground for other courts to cover in determining the constitutional limits on gun laws. Legal challenges already are pending against several state and big-city gun laws.

Among other laws already facing lawsuits or expected to be challenged:

- Age limits that bar people younger than 21 from buying or owning guns.

- Lockbox and trigger-lock requirements to keep guns away from children.

- One-gun-a-month purchase limits in California, Maryland, New Jersey and Virginia.

- Georgia's prohibition on carrying guns into churches.

- Bans on guns in bars.

- California's outlawing of certain handguns.

- Assault weapons and ammunition bans.

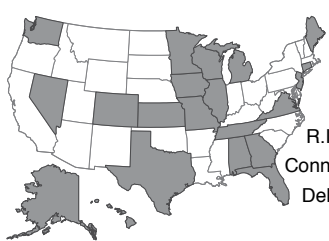
- Federal and state prohibitions aimed at keeping domestic violence offenders from

Owning a gun

The Supreme Court held that Americans have the right to own a gun but did not strike down existing laws. Federal and state laws require that 49 states and the District of Columbia perform background checks on firearm buyers, but states individually determine ownership regulations.

Mental health

■ Require reporting of buyers' mental health to FBI's criminal background check system



NOTE: Vermont has no state law requiring background checks of gun purchasers
Source: Legal Community Against Violence, Brady Center to Prevent Gun Violence

Waiting periods

■ Require waiting periods on gun purchases; includes D.C.



Ban assault weapons

■ Prohibit ownership of assault weapons; includes D.C.



Graphic: Melina Yingling

© 2010 MCT

having guns.

Local officials around the country professed confidence that their regulations would hold up under legal scrutiny, but many scholars were not so sure.

"I think a lot of these will

fall," said Temple University law professor David Kairys, a gun control proponent. "Can you limit people's ability to carry concealed weapons, or open weapons? That's noticeably absent from the majority's list of

what you can do."

Eugene Volokh, a UCLA law school professor who has written extensively on these constitutional issues, predicted challenges to the ban on assault rifles will fail because judges will conclude that

people still will be "free to have lots and lots of guns."

But he said attempts to eliminate carrying restrictions probably will fare better because gun rights advocates can argue that their right to self-defense means that they should be able to carry their weapons almost wherever they want, with exceptions for government buildings and schools.

Drawn-out permitting processes in New York and elsewhere also are ripe for a challenge, Volokh said. "I think a court will have no problem upholding a one-, two-, five-day waiting period," he said. "But if you're talking about a five-month wait, then a court may find it's a substantial burden."

New York restricts who can possess and carry guns, allowing handgun permits only to applicants of "good moral character." New Yorkers who want to carry their weapons must show "good cause" in addition to character, under a 99-year-old law.

ACROSS THE NATION

Alex blows into hurricane strength in western Gulf

MIAMI (AP)—Alex has become the first hurricane of the Atlantic season and is churning through the western Gulf, taking aim at the Mexico-Texas border and far away from the massive oil spill. Alex had maximum sustained winds at 75 mph (120 kph) late Tuesday. The National Hurricane Center says the Category 1 storm is the first June Atlantic hurricane since 1995. Forecasters say landfall seems likely Wednesday night. Hurricane-force winds extended up to 15 miles (30 kilometers) from the storm's center. Tropical storm-force winds extend 175 miles (280 kilometers). A hurricane warning was posted for the Texas coast from Baffin Bay, south to the mouth of the Rio Grande river and south to La Cruz, Mexico.

Stepmom of missing Ore. boy barred from her kids

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP)—A judge has forbidden the stepmother of a missing 7-year-old Portland boy to have access to her children or firearms. Court officials say the restraining order against Terri Moulton Horman was granted Monday afternoon by Multnomah County Circuit Judge Keith Meisenheimer. The judge released part of the court file Tuesday. Horman's stepson, Kyron, vanished June 4, leading to one of the most extensive searches in Oregon history. Investigators say she's

the last person known to have seen the child. Kyron's father, Kaine Horman, filed for divorce from Terri Horman on Monday and sought the restraining order. Terri and Kaine Horman have a 19-month-old daughter, and Terri Horman has a teenage son from a previous marriage.

Bear in first recorded Ky. attack still at large

FRANKFORT, Ky. (AP)—A black bear that mauled a hiker eluded traps Tuesday and a scenic area in the Daniel Boone National Forest remained closed to the public following the rare attack by an Appalachian bear on a human. Wildlife officers hadn't been able to find the animal that attacked, bit and shook Tim Scott of Springfield on Sunday in a remote area near Stanton in eastern Kentucky, state tourism spokeswoman Barbara Atwood said. "They had a bear sighting yesterday. However, they could not confirm that it was the bear in question," Atwood said. "But they feel confident the bear is still in the area." Scott, 56, survived and was released from a Lexington hospital Monday, when he spoke with reporters. Scott said he was hiking in the Red River Gorge Geological Area ahead of his wife and son when he spotted the bear about 25 feet away. He said it appeared to be about 150 pounds and he took a few photos with his cell phone until the bear disappeared under a ledge. Scott said he was about to call his wife to tell her to take another trail when the bear reappeared.

MONTCLAIR, N.J. (AP)—One hobnobbed with academics and entrepreneurs who shared his interest in cutting-edge science. Another spoke five languages, went to embassy parties and was fascinated by global politics. A third held herself out to be a venture capitalist and hit the networking circuit, looking for investment opportunities.

Spy suspects had interests in science, finance

The 11 people arrested and accused of being members of a Russian spy ring operating under deep cover in America's suburbs appear to have been part of a slow and patient plan by Moscow to cultivate contacts in the U.S. who could yield vital competitive information—not necessarily on weapons or U.S. strategic planning, but on fi-

nance, business and technology, intelligence experts say.

"This is a long-term investment by an intelligence service to lead those individuals there, give them general assignments and see what they can pick up," said John Slatery, a deputy assistant director of counterintelligence at the FBI who retired in 2008 and is now an executive with BAE Systems

Intelligence and Security.

"Although they aren't trained intelligence professionals, they are available and on call for assignments such as: Can you go attend this meeting? Can you go attend this trade show? Can you contact this person? Could you maybe enroll in this university? And then elevate the access as they go."

Kagan insists she didn't block military at Harvard

WASHINGTON (AP)—Supreme Court nominee Elena Kagan maneuvered carefully through tough Republican questioning on military recruitment at Harvard Law School, gun owners' rights and free speech Tuesday, drawing strong praise from Senate Democrats who command the votes to confirm her.

In a long day of questioning at a hearing that stretched into the evening, Kagan came under fire from Sen. Jeff Sessions, the top Republican on the Senate Judiciary Committee, for her decision as dean of Harvard Law to bar recruiters

from the school's career services office over the Pentagon's policy against openly gay soldiers. He said that amounted to "punishing" the military services, treating them in a "second-class way" and creating a hostile environment for the military on campus.

Sessions said he emerged from a heated back-and-forth with Kagan on the issue more "troubled" about her nomination than before.

Still, President Barack

Obama's nominee soldiered through her second day of testimony on Capitol Hill apparently in good shape to win Senate approval—barring a major gaffe—in time to take her seat before the court opens a new term in October. If confirmed, Kagan, 50, would succeed retiring Justice John Paul Stevens.

Under questioning by Sessions, Kagan said she was trying to balance Harvard's nondiscrimination policy, which she believed "don't ask, don't tell" violated, with a federal law that

required schools to give military recruiters equal access as a condition of eligibility for federal funds. She said she welcomed the military, and believed her policy of requiring recruiters to work through a student veterans group—first set by a predecessor—was a valid compromise.

"We were trying to make sure that military recruiters had full and complete access to our students, but we were also trying to protect our own antidiscrimination policy and to protect the students whom it is ... supposed to protect, which in this case were our gay and lesbian students," Kagan said.

Petraeus leaves room for changes in Afghan pullout

WASHINGTON (AP)—Gen. David Petraeus left open the possibility of recommending that President Barack Obama delay his plans to start withdrawing troops from Afghanistan next summer if the new commander can't turn around the stalemated war.

"There will be an assessment at the end of this year after which undoubtedly we'll make certain tweaks, refinements,

perhaps some significant changes," Petraeus told a Senate panel Tuesday of the battle plan and the timeline Obama has laid out.

The Senate Armed Services Committee quickly approved Petraeus for the job of running the Afghan war, and the full Senate could act as early as Tuesday evening. Obama nominated Petraeus to take over from the disgraced Gen. Stanley McChrystal, fired last week for

disparaging remarks about his civilian bosses.

Petraeus also told senators that he may change the war's battlefield rules, designed to limit civilian casualties and improve support for the foreign forces fighting the Taliban-led insurgency. Some troops and congressional Republicans complain they handicap U.S. forces.

Obama has said troops will

begin to leave in July 2011, but that the pace and size of the withdrawal will depend upon conditions.

Petraeus did not rule out a significant exodus then, as Vice President Joe Biden favors, but he would not promise one either. Petraeus has previously said that he would recommend putting off any large-scale withdrawal if security conditions in Afghanistan can't sustain it.



Kagan

Asia

Benigno Aquino III sworn in as RP leader



President Benigno Aquino III, center, takes his oath before Supreme Court Associate Justice Conchita Carpio-Morales as the Philippines' 15th President during inaugural ceremony Wednesday June 30, 2010 in Manila, Philippines.

By **OLIVER TEVES**
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — Benigno Aquino III was sworn in Wednesday as the Philippines' 15th president, leading a Southeast Asian nation his late parents helped liberate from dictatorship and which he promises to deliver from poverty and pervasive corruption.

Hundreds of thousands of people, many of them clad in his yellow campaign color, applauded and yelled his nickname "Noy" as Aquino took his oath before a Supreme Court justice at Manila's seaside Rizal Park.

Vice President Jejomar Binay was sworn in before Aquino took his oath in the nationally televised ceremonies that resembled a music concert, with celebrity singers and an orchestra belting out nationalist and folk songs. Yellow confetti rained from two helicopters.

Diplomats from more than 80 countries and two former Philippine presidents — Fidel Ramos and Joseph Estrada — attended. East Timor President Jose Ramos Horta, a longtime supporter of the Aquino family, and U.S. Trade Representative Ron Kirk, sent as head of the American delegation by President Barack Obama, were among the foreign dignitaries.

Aquino, wearing a native formal shirt and speaking in Tagalog, promised to fight corruption, particularly in the notoriously graft-ridden bureaus of customs and internal revenues. He pledged to bring a new era of good governance, reforms and a bureaucracy that will be sensitive to the plight of the common folk.

"Today our dreams start to become a reality," Aquino said. "It's the end of a leadership that has long been insensitive to the suffering of the people."

In a widely applauded portion of his speech, Aquino said he also suffered in the past like ordinary Filipinos when he got stuck in heavy traffic as convoys with loud sirens and carrying powerful people breezed by. "No more wang-wang," he said, referring to the local word for blaring sirens.

Addressing his new justice secretary, Leila de Lima, Aquino ordered her to deliver "true and complete justice for all."

"He signifies change and hope," said businesswoman Marivic Roy, who came with her husband and two sons. "That's why people gravitate toward him. We feel there is hope for this country."

The rise of Aquino, a low-key legislator and son of democracy icons, reflects the Filipinos' longing for moral and political renewal. Outgoing leader President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo's stormy nine-year rule saw four failed power grabs and opposition impeachment bids against her over allegations of vote-rigging, corruption and rights abuses.

The Cabinet he unveiled Tuesday has mostly Aquino allies and defectors from Arroyo's government. Aquino said he would immediately form an independent commission to investigate corruption allegations against Arroyo and other scandals under her term.

"They will as necessary prepare and prosecute the cases to make sure those who committed crimes against the people will be made to pay," Aquino said, adding the commission will be headed by a respected retired chief justice, Hilario Davide.

"I can forgive those who did me wrong, but I have no right to forgive those who abused our people," Aquino said.

Arroyo has steadfastly denied any wrongdoing. Aquino's cam-

paign promise to investigate Arroyo has been seen as a potential political flash point early in his six-year term.

In a brief but awkward moment, Aquino and Arroyo shared a traditional limousine ride from the presidential palace to his oath-taking ceremony. Arroyo was given military honors then left to take her oath as a member of the House of Representatives, where she won a seat in the May 10 elections.

Many in the crowd loudly booed Arroyo as she drove away, some chanting "Go home!"

The new president and his mother, the late former President Corazon Aquino, had called on Arroyo to resign and joined street protests against her.

Aquino's parents are revered for their opposition to the late dictator Ferdinand Marcos, who was ousted by a 1986 "people power" revolt. Considered a political lightweight, the 50-year-old bachelor won a landslide election victory that analysts have attributed to his family name and anti-corruption platform.

Aquino has also anchored his campaign on restoring the credibility of the judiciary and Congress, which he says have been seriously eroded under Arroyo's rule.

The Philippines has been grappling with poverty, corruption, armed conflicts and deep divisions for decades. On the eve of his rise to the presidency, Aquino said he felt anxious but confident the millions who voted him will back him to confront those problems.

A third of the 90 million population lives on a dollar a day, and about 3,000 Filipinos leave daily for jobs abroad. Aquino has also expressed alarm at the ballooning national budget deficit, which he said could surpass \$8.7 billion (400 billion pesos) this year.

World

Rwanda's Hutus live in fear of attacks, repression

KAMPALA, Uganda (AP)—The Rwandan refugee was walking home one night when four men jumped him and put him in a stranglehold. He lay still, pretending to be dead as one attacker made a phone call and announced the hit had been carried out.

With his assailants just yards away, Mani Uwimana jumped up and fled, startling the attackers and becoming a survivor of what appears to be an assassination campaign targeting Rwandan dissidents at home and abroad.

International rights groups have condemned Rwanda in recent weeks for clamping

down on dissent, curbing freedoms and silencing opponents in advance of the country's August presidential election.

Among the apparent victims was a former senior Rwandan military commander who had a falling out with President Paul Kagame. Lt. Gen. Faustin Kayumba Nyamwasa was shot in the stomach outside his home in South Africa, and his wife blamed Kagame—an accusation the president denied. Nyamwasa survived the June 19 shooting.

A human rights report released this week said Rwanda's Tutsi-led government is oppressing Hutus in neigh-

boring Uganda and the ethnic divisions that sparked Rwanda's 1994 genocide have re-emerged. At least 500,000 ethnic Tutsis and moderate Hutus were killed in the Hutu-led slaughter—violence that ended when a Tutsi-dominated militia headed by Kagame entered the country, causing droves of Hutus to flee.

Rwanda's government has denied involvement in the recent attacks. Kagame, who is running for a second seven-year term, bristled at a news conference Monday over the allegations of repression and said the country is not experiencing any ethnic tension.

Mexico vote goes ahead despite slain candidate

CIUDAD VICTORIA, Mexico (AP)—Drug cartels fund a tenth of Mexico's economy. They have infiltrated many local and state police forces and staged assaults on army bases. Now they're violently inserting themselves into politics, killing the leading candidate for governor of a northern state only days before Sunday's elections in 12 states.

The assassination of Rodolfo Torre in the border state of

Tamaulipas on Monday capped the deadliest month yet in President Felipe Calderon's military-led offensive against drug traffickers. Carefully planned attacks—including an ambush that killed 12 federal police officers—have served as chilling reminders that Mexico's drug cartels can get to anyone, anywhere, armed with sophisticated weaponry and billions of dollars to pay off informants.

Mexican officials said Sunday's voting would go forward as planned, including in Tamaulipas, where Torre's replacement as candidate of the Institutional Revolutionary Party had not even been named.

But even as Calderon's government urged citizens to stand up to the cartels by turning out to vote, Mexicans increasingly see the cartels—not Calderon—as having the upper hand.

Strengthening Alex expected to become hurricane

VILLAHERMOSA, Mexico (AP)—A strengthening Tropical Storm Alex was expected to become a hurricane Tuesday as it swirled toward the Gulf coast of northern Mexico and southern Texas, where authorities were readying emergency shelters and distributing sandbags.

Forecasters said the storm's

likely path would take it away from the site of the huge Gulf of Mexico oil spill off Louisiana's coast, but added that it might push oil farther inland and disrupt cleanup efforts.

Alex had maximum sustained winds near 70 mph (110 kph) early Tuesday, and the U.S. National Hurricane Center in Miami, Florida, predicted

the storm would grow into a hurricane sometime Tuesday as it headed toward the U.S.-Mexico border at the mouth of the Rio Grande. Landfall seemed likely Wednesday night.

Forecaster Todd Kimberlain said conditions Monday led the center to conclude the storm would be a less powerful hurricane than initially thought.

WORLD BRIEFS

Russia: Suspected spies include Russian citizens

MOSCOW (AP)—Some of the suspected spies arrested in the United States are Russian citizens, Russia's Foreign Ministry acknowledged Tuesday, but it insisted they did nothing to hurt U.S. interests. The ministry statement said Russia is counting on the U.S. "to show proper understanding, taking into account the positive character of the current stage of development of Russian-American relations." Prime Minister Vladimir Putin delivered the same message during a meeting at his country residence with former President Bill Clinton, who was in Moscow to speak at an investment conference. "I understand that back home police are putting people in prison," Putin said, drawing a laugh from Clinton. "That's their job. I'm counting on the fact that the positive trend seen in the relationship will not be harmed by these events." The Foreign Ministry would not say specifically how many of the 11 alleged deep-cover agents are Russian.

Toronto police questioned after summit arrests

TORONTO (AP)—Civil liberties groups called for an investigation of police conduct Tuesday following the arrest of 900 people during the massive and sometimes violent protests at the global economic summits over the weekend. The Canadian Civil Liberties Association called for a public inquiry Tuesday into security operations at the G-20 and G-8 summits, which resulted in the largest mass arrests in Canadian history and included

the use of tear gas and rubber bullets on protesters. "We have police brutality, illegal searches, arbitrary detentions, people being asked all sorts of questions and being harassed," Nathalie Des Rosiers, general council for the Canadian Civil Liberties Association, said Tuesday. "It's unconstitutional, it's illegal and it should not happen." The group, which had 50 human rights monitors at the protests to observe police behavior, also called for an apology to those claiming their civil liberties were trampled. It said in a statement that police conduct was "at times, disproportionate, arbitrary and excessive."

Masked protesters clash with Greek police

ATHENS, Greece (AP)—Dozens of masked youths clashed with police at a union protest Tuesday in Athens during the country's fifth general strike this year against the cash-strapped government's planned pension and labor reforms. Riot police fired tear gas and stun grenades to disperse troublemakers who threw chunks of marble smashed off metro station entrances and set rubbish bins on fire. Running clashes continued along a major avenue—lined with shuttered shops and banks—as rioters armed with wooden clubs made repeated sallies against police. Seven policemen were injured in the clashes, and 13 demonstrators were detained, six of whom were arrested, police said. Riot police chased demonstrators into a main subway station, and an AP photographer saw police detain one young man in a subway car, spraying him with pepper spray.

Environment

Palau withdraws support for Japan whaling



AP
Demonstrators hold banners outside the the 62nd International Whaling Commission's in Agadir, Morocco, Monday, June 21, 2010 as a worker collect rubbish .The International Whaling Commission is holding its most important meeting in decades, as nations ponder whether to suspend the porous 25-year ban on commercial hunting in favor of a more enforceable regime of limited whaling. A proposal before the 88-member commission aims to get Japan, Norway and Iceland to reduce the number of whales they kill each year in exchange for ending their rogue status.

By **DENCIO MANGLONA**
STUDENT INTERN

Whale conservation activists are breathing easier after the island nation of Palau walked into the 2010 International Whaling Commission Annual Meeting last week no longer supporting Japan's whaling practices.

Palau, a long-time supporter of Japan, had change of heart, according to Harry R. Fritz, Palau Minister of Natural Resources, Environment, and Tourism.

"I think that Palau learned...how the Japanese collect the Minke whales for study; however, they also use [them] for consumption," said Fritz in an interview during the Micronesia Chief Executives Summit held on Saipan last week.

Palau is ending its support for Japan's scientific whaling program in favor of the catch quota proposal being considered by the International Whaling Commission at its annual meeting, which opened Monday, June 21, in Agadir, Morocco.

Palau President Johnson Toribiong had planned to announce the shift in Palau's whaling policy at the U.N. General Assembly in September last year, when he declared Palau the world's first shark sanctuary. But Japan asked him to delay the whaling announcement. Toribiong is attending the IWC Annual Meeting.

Commercial whaling has been banned since 1986; however, Japan has been conducting "scientific whaling," an unregulated exception to the ban that allows some IWC members to hunt whales for scientific research. In recent years Japan's annual scientific hunt has been

decried by opponents as a ruse for commercial whaling, as much of the whale meat is sold for domestic consumption.

Currently there is a proposal under discussion that many critics have labeled as a return to commercial whaling which would allow Japan, Norway, and Iceland to hunt a set number of whales while aiming to reduce the total catch over 10 years. No other members can begin whaling practices.

Anti-whaling states have called the whale quota system unacceptable and have demanded that Japan end hunts in Antarctic waters.

According to Fritz, Palau could possibly become a whale sanctuary.

"I think it [Palau] might declare the whale [sanctuary] due to the fact that the whales are coming to Palau during the time of this year—June, July, August—except that we don't have the detail[s] whether they're spawning or they're being very busy...we don't have that information yet."

These new plans, though, are second to Palau's efforts in establishing itself as a shark sanctuary.

"...We are working very hard to come up with the regulations to implement the shark sanctuary so that they can be protected. At the same time, when [President Toribiong] returns from Morocco, they will meet again for the possibility of doing the same thing for the whales."

Eighty-eight countries compose the members of the IWC, an organization concerns itself with designating areas as whale sanctuaries, whaling seasons, and other activities focused on the protection of the whale species.

First Friday Films begins tomorrow at AMP theater

"First Friday Films" will kick off tomorrow, July 2, with a free screening of *Black Wave*, a film on the looking at the lingering impacts of the Exxon Valdez oil spill. *Black Wave* will be shown at the American Memorial Park Visitor's Center at 7pm.

Black Wave is a documentary chronicling the 20-year legacy of the Exxon Valdez oil spill. On March 24, 1989, an Exxon Valdez oil supertanker wrecked, releasing millions of gallons

of crude oil into Arctic waters, marking the largest environmental disaster in the history of North America that's effects are still being felt today.

This first screening event, sponsored by the Mariana Islands Nature Alliance, aims to educate the Saipan community about this environmental issue, particularly in light of the ongoing disaster in the Gulf of Mexico. After the showing of the film, speakers will discuss and answer

audience questions regarding the recent oil spill in the Gulf and CNMI oil spill response matters.

"First Friday Films" is a free and monthly event, set to repeat every first Friday of the month. It is coordinated through a partnership between the Division of Environmental Quality and American Memorial Park, with the help of organizations such as MINA.

For a list of upcoming films, dates and times, visit DEQ's Web site at www.deq.gov.mp. (PR)

Before the sun goes DOWN, pick it UP, and THROW it in a MINA Adopt-a-Bin



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Tan Holdings recycling program lessens the load on the landfill.

In keeping with their MINA Adopt-a-Bin sponsorship responsibilities, 19 CTSI and Tan Holding employees held a cleanup of Susupe Beach Park last Saturday. Employees raked up mounds of litter-strewn ironwood needles that contained old bones, cigarette butts and packages, pull tabs, bottle caps, and juice box straws and wrappers. These items may seem too insignificant to be considered litter by the people who carelessly drop them on the ground, but this type of debris is difficult to remove from sand, leaves, and the general marine environment. So instead of volunteers collecting what would only fill a few bags, 80 bags of debris are raked up on average each month from Susupe Beach Park, as reported by a regular cleanup volunteer Argie Buensalido, a CTSI employee.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
CTSI rakes up over 80 bags of litter-strewn leaves each month from Susupe Park.

Even small bits of marine debris can last for years in the environment before degrading. NOAA's Marine Debris Web site reports that cigarette butts can last up to five years, aluminum cans 200, plastic bottles 450, and monofilament fishing line up to 600 years. Batteries of various types are made of heavy metals and corrosive electrolytes that last for *thousands of years* continually leaching these poisons into our ground water and marine environment.

What is left on the ground today is washed out to sea joining the myriad of pollutants and debris making up the Pacific Garbage Patch. Wikipedia reports that the Patch "is characterized by exceptionally high concentrations of pelagic plastics, chemical sludge, and other debris that have been trapped by the currents of the North Pacific Gyre." The Gyre is located roughly between 135° to 155°W and 35° to 42°N.

As a responsible organization, Tan Holdings created a recycling program last year for all their affiliates. The program has greatly diminished their



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Small debris is difficult to remove from the environment leading to unnecessary amounts of green material going to the landfill.

contribution to the CNMI's landfill. Joven Cruz, CTSI station manager, said Reality Management Services collects paper, metals, and plastics from all their business locations including some apartment complexes. "RMS then sends the recyclables to Ericco Enterprises and DPW's lower base transfer station for shipment off island. As a CTSI employee I'm proud to say that by recycling we are helping to extend the life of our landfill."

CTSI and Tan Holding's volunteer efforts did not go unappreciated. At least two families gathered at the park on Saturday for their own festivities. Ami King-Pableo, who was celebrating her birthday, said that she purposefully called family members to remind them to



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Birthday girl Ami King-Pableo said she called family members to remind them to bring garbage bags for cleaning up afterwards.

bring garbage bags for cleaning up afterwards.

MINA asks everyone to act as responsibly. Before the sun goes DOWN on your fiesta, remember to pick it UP, and THROW it in an Adopt-a-bin. It's that easy. If you are interested in learning more or would like to add your name to MINA's Adopt-a-Bin map contact 233-Reef, or mina@minapacific.org. (PR)

Life & Style



CNN's King says he's ending show after 25 years

AP
In an image provided by CNN, talk show host Larry King is shown on the set of his program "Larry King Live" at the CNN studios in Los Angeles, Thursday, March 17, 2005.

NEW YORK (AP)—Larry King, who interviewed statesmen and stars from a prime-time perch at CNN for 25 years but has faded in ratings and influence lately, said Tuesday that he will step down this fall from his nightly show.

"It's time to hang up my nightly suspenders," King said in a message sent to fans via Twitter.

King said he will do occasional specials for CNN. He marked his 25th anniversary on the air this month and takes pride in a Guinness Book of World Records citation for hosting the longest-running show on the same network in the same time slot.

The longtime radio host was a pioneer in cable television. From the first show where he interviewed then-New York Gov. Mario Cuomo, King's desk was considered a valued spot for anyone interested in talking to the nation. King's interview style was plain-spoken and critics would suggest occasionally ill-prepared, but he was good at making his guests feel comfortable.

"He lured so many people to this new frontier of cable back before anybody understood what it was all about," said CNN U.S. President Jon Klein, who called King a "living, breathing Hall of Famer who is still doing the work."

King said he felt no pressure from CNN to leave. He said he began thinking about stepping down as his 25th anniversary week ended earlier this month, on the airplane home after interviewing basketball star LeBron James. During that week, he also spoke

to Bill Gates, President Barack Obama and Lady Gaga - an apt example of the mix that he always sought on his show.

"I said, 'I can't top this,'" King said in an interview Tuesday.

"I'm tired of the nightly grind," he said. "I do want to do other things but I want to stay at CNN in some way ... There's a case of great mixed emotions."

King told his staff during a conference call Tuesday that he called "one of the saddest 10 minutes of my life."

CNN is in the midst of remaking its prime-time lineup and last week announced that former New York Gov. Eliot Spitzer and conservative columnist Kathleen Parker would co-host an 8 p.m. EDT show on politics and current events.

The network will now begin concentrating on potential successors. Klein said he wanted to continue with provocative newsmaker interviews in the time slot.

"Nobody else does it," he said. "It's an important tool in the arsenal and we want to keep it going."

CBS News anchor Katie Couric has long been considered a potential successor, given her interviewing skills. That talk has cooled lately with suggestions that Couric may be reluctant to take responsibility for another

network with ratings troubles; Klein would not discuss specific candidates. Recent published reports have suggested that "America's Got Talent" judge Piers Morgan could be a candidate. King said if it were up to him, Ryan Seacrest would be the best choice to fill his shoes.

As cable news audiences gravitated toward politically pointed shows and newsmakers found many more outlets for interviews in recent years, King slipped behind Fox News Channel's Sean Hannity and MSNBC's Rachel Maddow in the ratings. During his interview with Lady Gaga, the 76-year-old broadcast veteran had people wondering if he was really connecting with a pop star a half century his junior.

King got some sympathy from comic Bill Maher, invited as a guest on "Larry King Live" on Tuesday specifically to be there on the night of the announcement.

"I heard people say Larry didn't understand Lady Gaga," Maher said. "Who understands Lady Gaga?"

King estimated he's conducted some 50,000 interviews during a 53-year broadcasting career. He said he always tried to ask short questions and to never come in with an agenda. "I left my ego at the door," he said.

"I never learned a thing while I was talking," he said. "That would be my motto."

He dismissed a series of stories this spring questioning his future and speculating about possible successors.

"You can't worry about things you can't control," he said. "I can't control if a newspaper is going to speculate about something or if a blog is going to speculate ... If I let it get me, I'll go nuts. So what I try to do, and I'm not being morbid, I just try to do the best show I can. If it works, it works."

King said he was able to see the baseball all-star games of his sons this weekend. If it was during the week, he'd miss them.

"I'm never going to see these again," he said. "They're not going to repeat themselves. They're 11 and 10. They're not going to be 11 and 10 again."

Besides work with CNN, King said he'd also be interested in working in comedy.

"I think I speak for a lot of people in America that I will miss you terribly at this hour," Maher said on the show.

Sandra Bullock, Jesse James divorce finalized

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Sandra Bullock and Jesse James are divorced.

A court clerk in Austin, Texas, confirmed that the divorce between the Oscar-winning actress and celebrity biker was finalized Monday. Bullock filed to end the marriage in April after reports surfaced that James had been unfaithful.

Details of the settlement were sealed by the court, but Bullock's initial filing cited "discord or conflict of personalities" as grounds for the divorce.

An attorney for Bullock did not immediately return calls to The Associated Press on Tuesday, but her publicist, Cheryl Maisel, confirmed the couple's split was complete.

James' publicist, Monique Huey-Jones, declined to comment Tuesday.

The actress and "Monster Garage" star met in 2003 and married in 2005. It seemed like an odd pairing—the movie star often called "America's Sweetheart" marrying the tattooed biker who had been wed twice before.

It was the first marriage for Bullock, who became a devoted stepmom to James' children: Sunny, 6; Jesse Jr., 12; and Chandler, 15.

The couple stayed out of the public eye as they continued their individual successes. She racked up film and production credits, while he expanded his reality-TV presence, starring in his own series, "Jesse James is a Dead Man," and appearing on "The Celebrity Apprentice."

Their problems surfaced in March, just days after Bullock won the best-actress Oscar for her role in "The Blind Side." She had been on a career high—her romantic comedy, "The Proposal," was a box-office smash, then she swept Hollywood's awards season for her "Blind Side"

performance.

The couple was a fixture at the glittery awards shows this year. She called James "sexy" as she accepted her Screen Actor's Guild award. Backstage, he held her purse as she spoke to reporters.

At the Golden Globes, Bullock told James from the stage, her voice cracking with emotion: "There's no surprise that my work got better when I met you. Because I never knew what it felt like for someone to have my back."

She did not thank her husband at the Academy Awards, instead dedicating her acceptance speech to mothers and parents everywhere. Still, the couple walked hand-in-hand down



AP
In this March 7, 2010 file photo, Sandra Bullock and Jesse James arrive at the Vanity Fair Oscar party in West Hollywood, Calif. Sandra Bullock won the best actress award for her role in "The Blind Side."

Oscar's red carpet, celebrated together at the parties afterward and were photographed outside a Long Beach burger joint the next day.

Ten days later, reports surfaced that James had been unfaithful while Bullock was away making her Oscar-winning film. He apologized to his wife and three children from previous relationships through a statement released by his publicist.

"It's because of my poor judgment that I deserve everything bad that is coming my way," he said.

"This has caused my wife and kids pain and embarrassment beyond comprehension, and I am extremely saddened to have brought this on them."

Bullock canceled appearances to promote "The Blind Side" overseas, moved out of the home she shared with James and dropped out of sight. James went to rehab, but did not reveal why he needed treatment.

Bullock in April dropped a bombshell, announcing on the cover of People magazine that she was divorcing James and had adopted a baby boy who she intended to raise as a single mother.

Mel Gibson split from ex-girlfriend turns bitter

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Mel Gibson's breakup from Russian singer Oksana Grigorieva was supposed to be a quiet affair, but a confidential settlement and sealed court case haven't kept the former couple's troubles from hitting the spotlight.

The latest flare-up began last week when Grigorieva apparently named Gibson in a child custody case, which is sealed and will likely remain out of the public domain.

The seal hasn't kept the breakup out of headlines, though, continuing Gibson's streak in recent years of making news more for his personal life than his film career.

On Monday, the actor-director's attorney issued a statement revealing that the couple in May reached a custody agreement for their 7-month-old daughter, Lucia.

The contents of that pact were confidential, but attorney Stephen Kolodny accused the 40-year-old Grigorieva of violating its terms.

He said the actor has paid Elizabeth Edwards: It was not easy to leave John

RALEIGH, N.C. (AP)—Elizabeth Edwards says it was not easy to leave her husband in the wake of the two-time presidential contender's infidelity, writing in a new chapter to her memoir that she still sees in him the memories of their 30 years together.

Edwards says in the updated version of her book released Tuesday that she spent two years trying to "reinvent" her role as a wife so that they could stay together despite the affair. But she says the "tender thread" holding the family together unraveled at the very end of 2009—three years after John Edwards first told his wife in private that he'd had a one-night stand with a videographer.

"One day, I did not want to try anymore," she said.

The couple has since separated and he acknowledged fathering a child with mistress Rielle Hunter during his 2008 campaign for the White House. The 2004 Democratic vice presidential nominee also acknowledged a federal investigation into his campaign funds, with former campaign aide Andrew Young saying a grand jury asked questions about money used to keep Hunter in hiding during the presidential race.

Elizabeth Edwards says in her book "Resilience" that it was not easy to leave the marriage because she saw 30 years of memories in him. They were law school sweethearts who got married just days after they took the bar exam together in the summer of 1977. They had four children together, including a son who died at the age of 16.

Grigorieva "tens of thousands of dollars," is providing his daughter with health insurance and a nanny and has bought a lavish home and a car for his ex-girlfriend.

Kolodny's statement said Gibson's payments to Grigorieva will change, but he did not indicate how.

"Mel has generously supported Lucia and will continue to do so," the statement said.

Grigorieva, who met Gibson

while he was filming "Edge of Reason," told The Associated Press that she could not discuss the case.

The singer denied online reports, however, that Gibson obtained a restraining order against her. Her attorney, Marci Levine, did not return calls and an e-mail seeking comment Tuesday.

A person close to Gibson said one of the main issues of the case was the Australian-

American writer-director's access to his daughter. The person was not authorized to speak publicly and spoke on condition of anonymity.

Kolodny said the agreement called for the couple's daughter to spend about half her time with Gibson.

Gibson's wife of 28 years, Robyn, cited irreconcilable differences for their split last April. That case is ongoing, but it has not generated the attention of Gibson's split with Grigorieva.

Most of that case has been handled in private with few documents filed publicly.

Grigorieva and Gibson were frequently photographed together when their relationship became public after the actor-director's wife filed for divorce last year. Grigorieva

also has a son from her relationship with British actor Timothy Dalton, who played James Bond in two films.

Gibson confirmed Grigorieva was pregnant with his eighth child to Jay Leno on "The Tonight Show" last May.

The couple's relationship represented the re-emergence of Gibson, 54, after several years of shunning the public eye. Before the release of "Edge of Reason" this year, Gibson's last starring role in a film had been in 2002's "Signs."

He directed two films since then, the surprise blockbuster "The Passion of the Christ" in 2004 and the violent Mayan action flick "Apocalypto" in 2006.

It was in that year that Gibson was arrested and charged with drunken driving. He later

apologized for making a slew of anti-Semitic remarks, saying he had battled alcoholism for all of his adult life. He complied with all the terms of the probation he was given in the case, and his conviction was expunged last year.

Gibson won an Academy Award in 1995 for directing "Braveheart," which also won that year's best picture Oscar.

He has since split time between acting and directing. This year's "Edge of Reason" grossed an estimated \$45 million at the domestic box office, very different from blockbusters of his action star heyday.

He is slated to appear next in the offbeat comedy "The Beaver," which co-stars and is directed by Gibson's longtime friend, Jodie Foster.



In this Feb. 4, 2010 file photo, Mel Gibson and Oksana Grigorieva arrive at the "Edge Of Darkness" Premiere in Paris. AP

Message of Appreciation

We, the family of the late

JOAQUIN SABLÁN DELEON GUERRERO

Lovingly known as
"Kindu"

Born to life: April 24th, 1956
Was called to eternal rest:
June 9, 2010



Wish to extend our sincere appreciation to all our relatives and friends for the genuine compassion you showed us during our most painful time of sorrow. We especially would like to acknowledge the many thoughtful prayers, comfort, unending support and other considerate acts of grace extended to us. Your presence and prayers at the daily masses, nightly rosaries and most especially at the mass of Christian burial were very comforting. Your kindness has touched us to all and we will always remember you in our hearts and prayers.

Thank you and Si Yei-us Ma'ase.

Elizabeth, Children, and Family

In Celebration of Her New Life Dolores (Ling) Rangamar Rabauliman

Born to life on August 9, 1940

Passed away in the grace of our Lord on June 28, 2010

In her new life, she now joins her:

Husband: †Joaquin Warakai Rabauliman
Parents: †Ernesto W. Rangamar and Maria I. Rangamar
Brothers and Sisters: †Lorenzo I. Rangamar, †Vicente I. Rangamar, †Luis I. Rangamar, †Luciano I. Rangamar, †Fidelia R. Merur
Grandchildren: †Jackson Amuangtul S. Rabauliman and †Joaquin Pedro W. Rabauliman
Daughter-in-law: †Patricia Maria T. Rabauliman

Her memory will live forever in the hearts of her:

Brothers and Sisters: Rafael I. Rangamar, Daniel I. Rangamar, Anna R. Cruz, Delgadina R. Rios, Ricardo I. Rangamar

Children and Grandchildren:

Juan R. Rabauliman and Merlita D. Rabauliman
Edrina Vera T. Rabauliman, Jonathan Reese T. Rabauliman, Mariah Marie Dalumpines, Jonalyn Merle D. Rabauliman
Francisco R. Rabauliman & Christine O. Rabauliman
Aaron Joseph S. Rabauliman & Mary Lourdes NG. Rabauliman (*Melingciana Marie NG Rabauliman, Joseph Roy NG. Rabauliman, Eka Dallas NG Rabauliman*)
Ernest Roy S. Rabauliman
William R. Rabauliman
Patrick Wayne T. Rabauliman & Shirley Saimon Igisomar (*Shirayne I. Rabauliman, Eliana I. Rabauliman, Shayne Liboy Daman I. Rabauliman*)
Billie Jean T. Rabauliman
Elizabeth Lucia R. Veamatahau & Eka P. Veamatahau
George R. Rabauliman & Shunzi Rabauliman
Georsina W. Rabauliman, Eric W. Rabauliman
Diego R. Rabauliman & Freda T. Rabauliman
Delorina T. Rabauliman, Dreana Rose T. Rabauliman, Dexter Raymund T. Rabauliman
Janet R. Labios & Edgrado G. Labios
Argie G. Labios, Mark Joseph G. Labios
James R. Rabauliman
Jennifer W. Rabauliman (Joaquin James W. Rabauliman)

She is also survived by numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, nephews, god-children and friends.

Nightly rosary is being offered at 7:30pm at the residence of Janet and Edgar Labios in Koblerville.

The remains of Dolores Rabauliman will be transferred from CHC to Edgar & Janet Labios residence in Koblerville at 7:00 a.m. on Friday, July 2, 2010. Followed by the responso at 7:30 a.m. At 9:45 a.m. her remains will be brought to St. Jude Church. Mass will be at 10:00 a.m. followed by burial at Chalan Kanoa Cemetery at 11:00 a.m. Lunch will follow at Edgar & Janet Labios' residence.

Your presence, thoughts and prayers are deeply appreciated.

Thank you from the family!

King Kong swings back to Universal Studios in 3-D

UNIVERSAL CITY, Calif. (AP)—Over two years ago, a fire ravaged the Universal Studios Hollywood backlot, turning several famous outdoor sets into ashes and apparently setting iconic giant gorilla King Kong free. At least, that's how the fact-meets-fantasy story line goes in "King Kong 360 3-D," an immersive addition to the studio tour opening July 1.

Rather than simply move past the real-life blaze that destroyed the theme park's original 30-foot-tall animatronic ape in 2008, the fire has become part of the revamped attraction's mythology, addressed by tour guides and featured in footage broadcast inside the tour's trams. One doctored image ominously depicts the figure of King Kong emerging from the smoke.

"The fire presented us with a unique opportunity to rebuild



Actresses Janney "Chiquis" Rivera, far left, and Raq-C, second from left, arrive at the premiere of "King Kong 360 3-D" park ride on Tuesday, June 29, 2010 in Universal Studios Hollywood in Los Angeles, Calif. "King Kong 360 3-D," the newest addition to the studio tour opens on July 1.

matronic Eighth Wonder of the World that burned down alongside exterior sets from "Back to the Future" and "To Kill a Mockingbird," Universal Studios enlisted Jackson and his team at special effects company Weta Digital in New Zealand to craft an entirely new adventure that would transport visitors to his rendition of Skull Island.

During the breakneck three-minute encounter, the computer-generated battle-scarred big ape tussles with a dinosaur gang on the side of a cliff. As the beasts seemingly smash into and lunge over the tram, a system underneath the winding vehicle jolts in sync with the action while bursts of air and water mimic King Kong's breathy roar and the dinosaurs' wet slobber.

The sequence, which premiered during an invite-only event Tuesday, is screened 60 frames per second from 16 hidden high-definition film projectors on two 40-foot-tall, 180-foot-long curved screens. The screens envelop the tram inside a soundstage, nestled in a new hillside location on the backlot across from the newly rebuilt New York set.

Before boarding the tram, riders are given 3-D glasses and instructed by Jackson in a video when to don them for the brawl,

which at one point cleverly depicts the last car of the tram being ripped off. Some moments, such as King Kong toying with his prehistoric prey and a foolhardy tourist snapping a photo, can only be viewed from certain vantage points.

Joe Letteri, visual effects supervisor for "King Kong" and "Avatar," said the team was tasked with several challenges in bringing 3-D to the studio tour. Most noticeably, the gorilla-versus-dinos smackdown is entirely seamless, so there are no cuts during the battle, and unlike a typical 3-D movie, the audience isn't always looking in the same direction.

"Everyone is seeing something different because they're not facing the same screen," said Letteri. "Every time someone goes through this ride, they're going to have a different experience depending on where they sit and look. We're making sure that everybody in the tram—whether in the front or the back—experiences something interesting and exciting."

Jackson introduced "King Kong 360 3-D" from New Zealand in a prerecorded 3-D video to a crowd of celebrities and media gathered in a soundstage Tuesday morning.

King Kong, which had been without a doubt one of the most popular stops on the studio tour," said Universal Studios show producer Valerie Johnson-Redrow. "The initial thought was, of course, to go back to Peter Jackson's 2005 film and re-imagine King Kong in an entirely new way for the studio tour."

Instead of recreate the ani-

POP CULTURE Q&A

'Once an Eagle' coming to DVD

By RICH HELDENFELS
AKRON BEACON JOURNAL

Q: I would appreciate finding out the name of a series that Sam Elliott was in, about a small group of men who were officers through World War II and then generals at the end.

A: Since I get many questions about it, I suspect you are remembering "Once an Eagle," a limited-run series that aired on NBC in 1976-77. It starred Elliott and Cliff Potts as rival officers from World War I through World War II and was based on the novel of the same name by Anton Myrer. I remember it vividly, and fondly, particularly for Elliott's performance.

People have been looking for an authorized DVD of it for years, and it appears they will finally get one. According to Amazon.com and other sites, Timeless Media will issue it on DVD on Aug. 31.

Q: On a "Cosby Show" episode I heard a woman singing "Candy." I'm guessing it was Bessie Smith. Who sang it, and is there a disc/tape of her songs available and where?

A: It was not Bessie Smith but Big Maybelle's recording in the episode, which had Clair lip-synching to the classic tune. Among the CD releases including it are "Blues, Candy & Big Maybelle"; it is also available as a digital download, including on Amazon.com and iTunes.

Q: Could you tell me what happened to a show called "Dexter"? It was on Showtime. Will it be back or is it gone forever?

A: It will return for a fifth season in the fall. The fourth season will be released on DVD and Blu-ray on Aug. 17.

Q: I need help in finding out the name of a movie and if it is available on DVD. The story is about a housewife in the United States who entered a writing contest and won a trip to Paris. Her husband won't go, so she goes

alone. The first day in Paris she is hit by a car and loses her memory. When she wakes up she thinks she is the heroine in the romantic novels that she has been reading.

A: Most likely you are remembering "American Dreamer," a 1984 film starring JoBeth Williams and Tom Conti. It has been released on DVD.

Q: Why isn't "Numb3rs" returning this fall? It was a great series. All my friends in the office are upset over this.

A: The CBS drama had its fans—including in my house—but a lot going against it. As the entertainment gurus at Hitfix.com summed it up: "'Numb3rs' is expensive and its demos were dwindling and CBS sent a very clear signal in cutting the show's episode order this year." Instead of the customary 22 episodes for a full-season broadcast network show, "Numb3rs" did 16. And the people making the show clearly knew the future was bleak. The season finale served very well as a series ender. But star Rob Morrow will be back in prime time this fall, on ABC drama "The Whole Truth."

Q: Can you tell me when "Human Target," starring Mark Valley, will be back?

A: Fox has picked up a second season of the show to air on Friday nights in the fall.

Q: You recently said that the dog who floated when getting a dog biscuit was Snuffles in "Quick Draw McGraw" cartoons. Not certain, as I did watch "Quick Draw McGraw" as a kid (OK, also when out of work), and did have a Baba Louie stuffed toy. But might it have also been Muttley (Dick Dastardly's sidekick from the "Wacky Races" cartoons and followups) that floated after the dog biscuit?

A: Muttley and Snuffles could have been cousins in their reaction to rewards, but there was a crucial difference. Snuffles loved his dog biscuits; Muttley got excited when given a medal.

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Grown Ups

Friday & Saturday 1:10 4:30 7:10 9:55
 Sunday thru Thursday 1:10 4:30 7:10

Adam Sandler, Kevin James
 Comedy • Rated PG 13

Synopsis

Thirty years after graduating from high school, five former basketball teammates gather at the lake house where they celebrated their biggest victory to mourn the passing of their late coach. Over the course of the Fourth of July weekend, the five friends realize that just because they've all grown up and started families doesn't mean that they've lost that old spark.



Knight And Day

Friday & Saturday 1:30 4:10 7:20 9:45
 Sunday thru Thursday 1:30 4:10 7:20

Tom Cruise, Cameron Diaz
 Action • Rated PG 13

Synopsis

A fugitive couple (Tom Cruise and Cameron Diaz) wages a war between truth and trust while speeding across the globe in an attempt to avoid capture by a determined federal agent (Peter Sarsgaard). Paul Dano, Viola Davis, Olivier Martinez, Maggie Grace, and Marc Blucas co-star.



Toy Story 3

Friday & Saturday 1:15 4:15 7:15 9:45
 Sunday thru Thursday 1:15 4:15 7:15

Tom Hanks, Tim Allen
 Fantasy, Children's, Family • Rated G

Synopsis

Pixar returns to their first success with Toy Story 3. The movie begins with Andy leaving for college and donating his beloved toys—including Woody (Tom Hanks) and Buzz (Tim Allen)—to a daycare. While the crew meets new friends, including Ken (Michael Keaton), they soon grow to hate their new surroundings and plan an escape.



Jonah Hex

Friday & Saturday 1:20 4:05 7:30 9:30
 Sunday thru Thursday 1:20 4:05 7:30

Josh Brolin, Megan Fox
 Western • Rated PG 13



The Karate Kid

Friday & Saturday 1:00 4:00 7:00 9:50
 Sunday thru Thursday 1:00 4:00 7:00

Jackie Chan, Jaden Smith
 Drama • Rated PG



The Prince of Persia

Friday & Saturday 1:05 4:20 7:05 9:40
 Sunday thru Thursday 1:05 4:20 7:05

Jake Gyllenhaal, Gemma Arterton
 Adventure • Rated PG 13



The A-Team

Friday & Saturday 1:25 4:25 7:25 9:35
 Sunday thru Thursday 1:25 4:25 7:25

Liam Neeson, Bradley Cooper
 Action • Rated PG 13

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'Twilight' eclipses records with widest debut ever

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The latest "Twilight" movie already has one record under its belt as it opens with the widest domestic release in box-office history.

"The Twilight Saga: Eclipse"

was booked in a record 4,416 theaters for its debut Wednesday. That beats the previous record of 4,380 theaters set less than two months ago by "Iron Man 2."

Along with midnight screen-

ings, some theaters are scheduling showings at 3 a.m. to meet demand as fans line up for the movie.

The second installment in the vampire-romance franchise, last November's "The Twilight

Saga: New Moon," leads the box-office charts for best opening day with \$72.7 million. The movie's opening weekend of \$142.8 million is No. 3 on the all-time chart.

Megan Fox marries longtime beau Brian Austin Green

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Megan Fox has tied the knot with longtime boyfriend Brian Austin Green. Fox's publicist Dominique Appel said Tuesday the couple was "happily married." The 24-year-old actress became engaged to Green earlier this month for the second time. The pair was previously

engaged in 2006.

Fox and Green, 36, have been dating for several years. It's the first marriage for both.

Fox's film credits include "Transformers" and "Jonah Hex," which opened earlier this month. Green was a star of the 1990s TV hit, "Beverly Hills 90210."

No plea deal in Stamos extortion case in Michigan

DETROIT (AP)—A northern Michigan man charged with conspiring to extort \$680,000 from John Stamos said Tuesday there was nothing illegal about his plan to sell unflattering photos of the actor.

The government contends that no embarrassing photos ever existed. Scott Sippola, however, insists the FBI lost or destroyed the pictures that he planned to peddle to magazines if Stamos didn't buy them.

Sippola offered his defense in a court filing on the same day that a codefendant's deadline for a plea bargain expired. A federal judge had given lawyers until Tuesday morning to iron out an agreement with Allison Coss, but a spokeswoman for prosecutors said nothing happened.

Sippola and Coss are scheduled for trial July 12 in Marquette in Michigan's Upper Peninsula on charges of conspiracy and other crimes.

The FBI says they threatened to sell photos of Stamos unless he paid them off. Coss and Stamos have known each other since meeting in Florida in 2004.

In his filing, Sippola said he had a legitimate deal—not extortion—in the works and the FBI lost or destroyed the valu-

Eminem has biggest sales debut since 2008

NEW YORK (AP)—Eminem's "Recovery" is going quite well. The rapper's CD sold 741,000 in its first week of release, making it the best debut of the year.

The figures were released by Eminem's record label, Interscope, on Tuesday and confirmed by Nielsen SoundScan. It's actually the best album debut since October 2008, when AC/DC's "Black Ice" topped the charts with sales of 784,000.

Eminem released the CD "Relapse" last year, but "Recovery" has gotten much better reviews.

The 37-year-old rapper was named the best-selling artist of the last decade by Billboard.

able photos after nine agents searched his home last year.

Without the photos, his lawyer, Sarah Henderson, asked U.S. District Judge R. Allan Edgar to dismiss the charges or tell jurors they could consider the lack of photos a strike against the prosecutor's case.

"Without the photographs, the government's case becomes much easier to prove and the defendant's defense much more difficult," Henderson wrote.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Maarten Vermaat said Sippola was raising a "standard defense in blackmail cases."

Stamos' TV credits include "ER" and "Full House."



AP
In this Nov. 3, 2006 file photo, actor Brian Austin Green, left, and Megan Fox arrive for the Beverly Hills 90210 and Melrose Place first season DVD launch party in Beverly Hills, Calif.

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Czechs oppose plans for Michael Jackson statue

PRAGUE (AP)—Thousands of Czechs are protesting plans to place a Michael Jackson statue in Prague. A group of fans plans to erect a two-meter (six-foot) column with a bronze bust of the King of Pop in Letna Park, where Jackson held a concert in 1996. They want to unveil it Aug. 29 to mark Jackson's 52nd birthday. City authorities have approved the project. By Tuesday, more than 2,000 people had joined a Facebook protest claiming it makes no sense to put the statue in the park because Jackson had no connection with the Czech Republic. "Michael Jackson—rest in peace, and leave our Letna alone!" one Facebook message said. A Prague art gallery has proposed putting statue by a Czech contemporary artist there instead.

Rapper 'Lil Boosie' pleads not guilty to murder

BATON ROUGE, Louisiana (AP)—Baton Rouge rapper Torrence "Lil Boosie" Hatch has pleaded not guilty to several charges including first-degree murder. Hatch appeared Monday before state District Judge Mike Erwin. Hatch's attorney, Marcus Allen, spoke after the hearing and said Hatch is "absolutely not guilty." The Advocate newspaper reports that Hatch is accused of paying a man to kill 35-year-old Terry Boyd, who was shot to death through a window while inside his home on Oct. 21. Two other Baton Rouge men also face first-degree murder charges in Boyd's death.

Exhibit on forged paintings opens in London

LONDON (AP)—The National Gallery is opening an exhibit this week about how experts use technology to properly identify art works and detect forgeries. The exhibit, "Close Examination - Fakes, Mistakes and Discoveries,"

shows how devices such as infrared imaging, X-rays and a gas-chromatography-mass-spectrometer can be used to peel back layers of time in art. One painting on exhibit is "The Virgin and Child with an Angel," which was acquired by the National Gallery in 1924. It was believed to be by Italian painter Francesco Francia until a similar painting hit the market. Last year, an investigation found the museum's work was a fake. The exhibit opens Wednesday and lasts until mid-September.

Jones, Redgrave to co-star in 'Driving Miss Daisy'

NEW YORK (AP)—A pair of theater veterans will be taking a ride to the Great White Way this fall. Tony Award-winners James Earl Jones and Vanessa Redgrave will co-star in the Broadway premiere of "Driving Miss Daisy." The Pulitzer Prize-winning play by Alfred Uhry will begin performances on Oct. 7 at the John Golden Theatre, with an official opening on Oct. 25, announced producers Jed Bernstein and Adam Zlotovich on Tuesday. It will be directed by David Esbjornson ("The Goat, Or Who Is Sylvia?"). Redgrave has previously been seen on Broadway in her Tony Award-winning performance in "Long Day's Journey Into Night," and, most recently, in Joan Didion's "The Year of Magical Thinking," in 2007. Jones won Tonys for "The Great White Hope" and the original Broadway production of "Fences." "Driving Miss Daisy" tells of a widowed, 72-year-old Jewish woman living in mid-20th-century Atlanta whose son hires an African-American man to serve as her chauffeur. Friction, then friendship results from their relationship. Originally opening in an Off-Broadway production in 1987, it became a hit film two years later starring Morgan Freeman and Jessica Tandy. Among its four Academy Awards, the film won playwright Uhry an Oscar for best adapted screenplay.

Facilities for the disabled serve a variety of needs

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



DEAR ABBY: You did a disservice to the truly disabled on May 1 when you advised "Jennifer in Maine" it was OK to use the handicapped restroom stall because her large size made it uncomfortable using a regular one.

I am married to a disabled person. He cannot get off a toilet without the grab bars available in a designated stall. What some individuals may not know is that many disabled people also suffer from bladder and bowel control issues and are desperate to use the facilities when they enter a restroom. A minute or two delay for them can spell disaster.

Finding it "difficult" to squeeze into a tiny stall is not the same as finding it impossible. The same goes for abusers of handicapped parking tags. The only persons entitled to these accommodations are the disabled—not the lazy, not the obese, or even necessarily the elderly. We who are blessed with the gift of mobility should make sure that accommodations are always available for those who are not.

VOICE OF REASON IN OHIO

DEAR VOICE: Thank you for correcting me. I told "Jennifer" I saw nothing wrong with using the larger stall as long as she deferred to a disabled woman needing it at the same time—and not everyone agreed with my reply. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: Not all reasons for needing the special stall are evident. Have you ever tried to fit two adults into a regular stall when one of them is disabled and needs assistance? This happens when someone else uses the bigger stall even though there were other ones available. It infuriates me knowing my parents suffer because people ignore disability-specific setups.

DAUGHTER OF DISABLED

DEAR ABBY: Handicapped parking spaces are legally reserved for people who have a disability. Handicapped restroom stalls are built to accommodate the disabled -- not reserved for them.

BARBARA IN SAN LUIS OBISPO

DEAR ABBY: I believe the larger stalls are there for anyone who needs them. If a woman has to change clothes, that stall is helpful, but she should be quick so as not to leave a disabled person waiting.

Women with small children or a baby in a stroller should use this stall and keep the kids in there with her. I was appalled when I saw a woman leave her baby in a stroller outside a small stall while she used it.

HEDDY, OUT WEST

DEAR ABBY: I use the bathroom stalls for people with disabilities and sometimes get dirty looks. I have a back injury and because the seats are much higher in a disabled stall, it allows me to conduct my business without enduring extreme pain. Please remind your readers that disabilities have many faces.

LADY WHO KNOWS IN EL CENTRO, CALIF.

DEAR ABBY: I also exclusively use the larger stall. I am a perfectly healthy 36-year-old woman with a thin build and no physical limitations. What I do have is moderate obsessive-compulsive disorder. The thought of using the smaller stall makes my heart race and my skin crawl.

I touch most of the outside world with a tissue or handkerchief. In a restroom I need enough space to be sure I will not touch the toilet, door, walls, trash can or paper dispenser. I realize my disorder is quirky, but I adapt. And obviously, I would yield to any person in need.

DENTON, TEXAS, READER

DEAR ABBY: You may have overlooked the real concern of "Jennifer's" mother about her obese daughter's use of the handicapped stall. Jennifer needs to shape up before she is the one in the wheelchair.

VALERIE IN FLORIDA

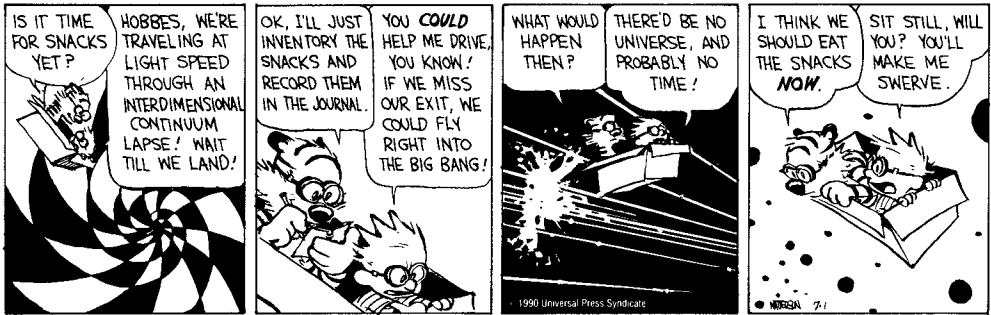
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Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



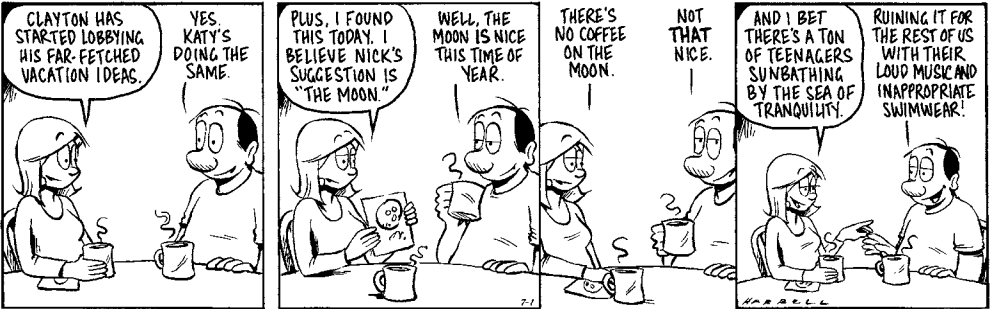
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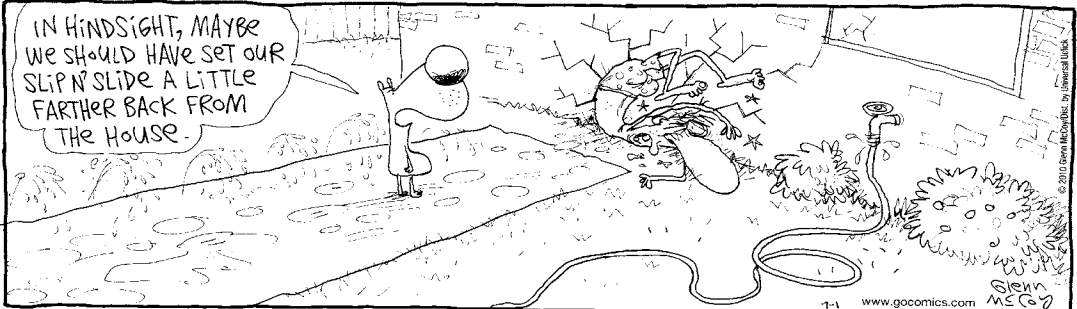
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Siamese

5 "My country, —"

8 Mountain-er's grip

12 Choir's rendition

13 Autumn mo.

14 Aesopian also-ran

15 Majestic tale

16 Mauna —

17 Never again?

18 Adapt

20 Incursion

22 Den mother's charges

26 For the case at hand

29 Shade

30 Scratch

31 Perjurer

32 Golf target

33 Saxo-phone range

34 Swiss canton

35 Music appreciation

DOWN

1 Not us

2 Syringe, for

3 In the thick of

4 Cutting tooth

5 Asian capital

6 Lemieux milieu

7 Fledgling business

8 Carolers, e.g.

9 Without rhyme or reason

10 Curved line

11 Right turn signal

19 Media monitor (Abbr.)

21 Chowed down

23 Enter-prise officer

24 Dobbin's dinner

25 Experts

26 Grad

27 Tragic

28 Least bald

32 Life, to Sally Bowles

33 Helped a hood

35 List-ening abbr.

36 Census stat

38 Map within a map

39 Nerdy sort

42 Squarish

43 Not "fer"

44 Assess-ment

45 Branch

46 Spy novel org.

48 47-Across, e.g.

Solution time: 25 mins.

Yesterday's answer 7-1

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11	
12					13				14				
15					16				17				
18					19			20	21				
			22			23					24	25	
26	27	28				29				30			
31					32				33				
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			40					41			42	43	44
45	46				47	48			49				
50					51				52				
53					54				55				

STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Liv Tyler, 33; Missy Elliott, 39; Pamela Anderson, 43; Dan Aykroyd, 58

Happy Birthday: This is not only a learning year but a push-for-what-you-want year, if you intend to reach your goals. There will be plenty going on at home and it's probably a good time to clean house emotionally. Get everything out in the open so you can see clearly where you stand. If you don't make things happen, nobody else will. Your numbers are 9, 13, 25, 27, 35, 37, 40

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Do for yourself; as soon as you ask for help, you will be in a vulnerable position. Strive for perfection and try to keep the peace. Compromise may be necessary at home. ***

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Communicating with people who can offer you information about travel, home improvements or an interest you have, will lead to changes that enrich your life. It's not luxury items that will help your financial situation but rather a good investment. ****

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Impulsive actions will lead to emotional upset. You have to look at the pros and cons before making a move that may jeopardize your financial and emotional well-being. Don't let your lack of knowledge or experience be behind a snap decision. **

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You may feel like making a fast move but, before you do, make sure you have something to compensate for whatever you are giving up. Uncertainty at home will affect your work and

productivity. Discuss your feelings and options with an outside source. *****

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): There is money to be made. Traveling, setting up meetings or investing in something that interests you will lead to a profit. Present and promote your idea and your efforts will pay off. Uniqueness will capture the consumer. ***

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Your over-zealous need to help others will be appreciated but, for once, do something for yourself. Buy something that will make your life easier or less stressful. Once in a while, you have to take credit for the things you accomplish. ***

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): If you meddle or try to take on everyone's responsibilities, you will jeopardize your reputation and your position. You must have faith in your abilities and ignore jealous comments designed to make you feel insecure. ***

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Don't be confused by someone who isn't giving you a straight answer. You have a great chance to advance if you present what you've been working on to a group. Listening to someone with experience will enable you to see what's being offered and how it can help you expand your interests. *****

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You may be a little touchy, especially if someone calls your bluff. Changes at home may feel like a burden at first but, as time passes, you will see the benefits that come with the added responsibility. **

EUGENIA LAST THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Your emotions will play a role in the decisions you make. Working with others as opposed to controlling what everyone does will get you much further. Diplomacy and praise will lead to exactly what you want. ****

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Emotions will be triggered by what others do and say. Discuss your plans and you will realize your potential through the feedback you receive. Your efforts will pay off in the friendships you make along the way. ***

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Time out for entertainment will do you good. Evaluate your current relationships and decide who is good for you and who isn't. Don't limit yourself because you are afraid of hurting someone. Be honest. ***

Birthday Baby: You are innovative, creative and set for stardom. You are willing to go the distance when asked to do something.

Eugenia's Web sites: eugenialast.com for confidential consultations, myspace.com/eugenialast for Eugenia's blog, astroadvice.com for fun

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

			4	8						9
	8	1								
					6			5		
			9				2		1	
	2		3	1	6			7		
1		3					4			
	4			7						
							8	9		
2					1	7				

Difficulty Level ★★

7/01

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Saturday's SUDOKU Answer

5	1	3	4	6	8	9	7	2
4	7	2	3	9	1	8	6	5
9	6	8	7	5	2	3	4	1
1	4	9	8	7	5	6	2	3
8	2	6	1	4	3	5	9	7
3	5	7	6	2	9	1	8	4
7	9	1	2	3	6	4	5	8
6	3	4	5	8	7	2	1	9
2	8	5	9	1	4	7	3	6

Difficulty Level ★★★

6/01

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

WEEKLY HOUSECLEANING ROUTINE

Solution: 8 letters

R	W	M	S	T	E	E	H	S	N	I	A	T	S	N
T	E	I	O	N	E	P	I	W	A	T	E	R	G	E
E	E	F	N	O	I	T	S	E	M	O	H	A	N	H
P	K	K	R	D	R	A	W	E	R	S	R	I	C	
R	E	N	C	I	O	B	T	P	H	A	H	R	L	T
A	N	I	M	U	G	W	S	R	G	S	E	Y	I	I
C	D	S	S	P	B	E	S	E	U	S	I	R	E	K
G	C	Y	A	R	P	S	R	S	N	C	P	D	C	O
N	H	A	G	A	S	L	L	A	W	R	A	N	L	H
I	O	T	R	L	T	D	E	D	T	O	I	U	I	S
H	R	D	L	E	O	L	O	I	I	O	L	A	Q	I
T	E	E	S	O	C	V	V	A	M	M	R	L	U	L
O	S	O	R	S	T	N	E	M	E	S	A	B	I	O
L	S	E	X	A	W	N	S	R	E	Y	R	D	P	
C	S	E	R	U	T	I	N	R	U	F	R	E	S	H

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Basement, Broom, Bucket, Care, Carpet, Ceilings, Chores, Cleanser, Closet, Clothing, Curtains, Dishes, Doors, Drapes, Drawers, Dryer, Fresh, Furniture, Garage, Gloves, Home, Kitchen, Laundry, Liquids, Maid, Oven, Pail, Pillows, Polish, Refrigerator, Rooms, Sheets, Shine, Sink, Spray, Stains, Sweep, Time, Trims, Walls, Water, Waxes, Weekend, Windows, Wipe

Yesterday's Answer: Bags

SALES: The topics of "Wonderword for Kids" appeal to younger fans but the puzzle difficulty matches what you're come to expect from "Wonderword." For a limited time, this book is on sale for just \$4 each (U.S. funds only, payable to Universal Uclick). Include \$5 postage for the first book order. \$1 plus for each additional book. Send to Wonderword, 1130 Walnut St., Kansas City, Mo. 64106 or call toll-free, 1-800-542-6480.

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A B C D E
F G H I J
K L M N O
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/s/ Bernadita A. Sablan
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No all-Williams final at Wimbledon: Venus stunned



WIMBLEDON, Eng-land (AP)—Venus Williams would shank a shot—and she shanked many on this day—then

turn toward the Court 1 player guest box where her parents were seated and put her palms up or shrug her shoulders, as if to indicate, “I don’t know what’s happening here.”

The five-time Wimbledon champion was out of sorts, out of answers and out of the tournament in the quarterfinals, stunned 6-2, 6-3 Tuesday by the lowest-ranked woman left, No. 82 Tsvetana Pironkova of Bulgaria, meaning there won’t be an all-Williams title match at the All England Club this year.

Williams double-faulted five times and totaled 29 unforced errors, 23 more than her solid-if-not-spectacular opponent.

“Didn’t do myself any favors,” said the No. 2-seeded Williams, whose younger sister, No. 1 Serena, won Tuesday to reach the semifinals. “I missed all shots today: forehand, volley, backhand. You know, if there was a shot to miss, I think I missed it.”

It was the older Williams’ 77th career singles match at the All England Club—she participated in eight of the past 10 finals, losing to her sister three times, including in 2009—and never had she won so few games. The only time she’s been beaten at Wimbledon by someone ranked lower than Pironkova was all the way back on June 28, 1997, when the American lost her tournament debut to No. 91 Magdalena Grzybowska.

Really, the only factor preventing this result from truly being considered one of the biggest upsets in tennis history is that Pironkova actually managed to do this before: She defeated Williams at the 2006 Australian Open.

“I don’t even really remember anything from last time,” Williams said. “Obviously, she’s played well to get this far, but I don’t think I did anything right today.”

Set aside, for a moment, all of Williams’ bona fides—seven Grand Slam titles, seven runner-up finishes at majors, a stint at No. 1 in the rankings—and consider the 22-year-old Pironkova’s resume: She never made it beyond the second round in 18 previous Grand Slam events, and never made the final at any tournament.

“No one expected me to (reach a) semifinal in Wimbledon,” Pironkova said, “and to beat Venus Williams like that.”

But Pironkova, who’s coached by her father, must have believed this was possible, right?

“If I have to be honest: no,” she said. “Coming here, I really just wanted to play a good game, to maybe win one or two rounds. But (a) semifinal looked, to me, very far.”

Well, now she’s there.

On Thursday, Pironkova will face No. 21 Vera Zvonareva of Russia, who added to the topsy-turvy day by coming back to oust No. 8 Kim Clijsters 3-6, 6-4, 6-2. Unlike Pironkova, Zvonareva at least can boast of some experience at this stage, having reached the 2009 Australian Open semifinals.

On the other side of the draw, defending champion Serena Williams smacked 11 aces—lifting her total

for the tournament to a Wimbledon-record 73, one more than she hit last year—and made only six unforced errors in a 7-5, 6-3 victory over No. 9 Li Na of China.

“I haven’t seen her serve that well in a while,” said the Williams sisters’ mother, Oracene Price, who joked that “they’re stealing some aces from Serena; we’re counting.”

That Centre Court match began after Pironkova’s victory was completed, so tennis’ two most successful siblings crossed paths in the locker room. Venus—who had just lost—and Serena—about to play—chatted, already aware they would not meet in the Wimbledon final for a fifth time.

“I don’t know if it affected my play

unseeded women in the semifinals for the first time since 1999. Indeed, Serena Williams is the only remaining woman with a Grand Slam championship; she owns 12.

“It’s not mine to lose; it’s mine to win, if I can get it,” the three-time Wimbledon champion said. “There’s three other people that are vying to win it. They have just as good a chance as I do.”

If you say so, Serena.

Zvonareva, at least, was in Wimbledon’s fourth round twice before. But she was 0-5 against Clijsters before turning things around this time by letting the two-time U.S. Open champion make mistakes.

Over the last two sets, Clijsters



Bulgaria’s Tsvetana Pironkova reacts as she wins a point from Venus Williams during their women’s singles quarterfinal at the All England Lawn Tennis Championships at Wimbledon, Tuesday, June 29, 2010.

too much,” Serena said.

She next faces yet another unheralded member of this year’s final four, 62nd-ranked Petra Kvitova of the Czech Republic, who saved five match points and erased third-set deficits of 4-0 and 5-2 to eliminate 80th-ranked qualifier Kaia Kanepi of Estonia 4-6, 7-6 (8), 8-6.

“I play now very well, my best tennis in my life, my career,” said the left-handed Kvitova, who knocked off No. 3 Caroline Wozniacki, No. 14 Victoria Azarenka and No. 23 Zheng Jie en route to her first Grand Slam quarterfinal.

Asked if she thinks she can win the title, the 20-year-old Kvitova replied: “I don’t think so. No.”

Perhaps that’s because she hadn’t won a grass-court match until last week.

Pironkova (her first name is pronounced sve-TAH-nuh, her last pee-RON-ko-vuh) and Kvitova (keh-VIT-oh-vuh) give Wimbledon two

made 25 unforced errors, Zvonareva nine. After going 0 for 3 on break points in the opening set, Zvonareva converted 4 of 10 the rest of the way.

“I never really made her work for it all that much,” Clijsters said. “That’s probably the most disappointing thing.”

Zvonareva has a reputation for mid-match melodrama—she sobbed on court at the 2004 U.S. Open—but was all business Tuesday, staying focused by draping a pink towel over her head during changeovers.

“It just helps me to relax and not to see what is going on around,” Zvonareva explained. “For me, it’s very important just to keep my concentration.”

That towel prevented her from catching score updates from Court 1, where Pironkova became the first woman representing Bulgaria to reach a major semifinal in the 42-year Open era.

As Pironkova’s match began, it

rained ever-so-slightly—a drop here, a drop there—and in the second game, Williams lost her footing as she strained to reach a forehand on the run. Williams stood and clutched at her lower back, but did not show any further signs of pain and said afterward she wasn’t injured.

She turned 30 this month, and a pair of players who are younger and once were her opponents, Martina Hingis and Anna Kournikova, played in the legends’ doubles event Tuesday. But Williams dismissed a question about whether she thinks at all about retiring.

“Today, I didn’t seem to be the best tennis player, but for the most part, I rock and roll this game,” she said. “I’ll give it up when I’m just terrible. It would take more than just a few bad days in a year to make me quit tennis. So that’s not even in the equation.”

The first test of Pironkova’s nerves came in the fifth game, when she was serving at 15-40. But she saved both break points and claimed the game, thanks to four miscues in a row by Williams.

Pironkova then went ahead 4-2, breaking with the help of a double-fault and a wide backhand by Williams. And Williams was broken the next time she served, too, opening with a pair of double-faults. Pironkova earned the break and the first set with a backhand passing shot.

Pironkova created problems by mixing speeds and angles, hitting slices or squash shots, sometimes of the sort one is more likely to see on a public playground than the manicured lawns of Wimbledon.

“I didn’t have a particular strategy,” Pironkova said.

Hey, whatever works.

She clearly flustered Williams, who kept muttering to herself or gesturing toward Mom and Dad.

“I got too caught up in the mistakes I was making, instead of just letting it go and moving on,” she said. “I expect a lot from myself, especially at this tournament.”

Williams finally appeared to make headway when she broke for a 2-1 lead in the second set. But a game later came the shot of the match: Williams hit a drop volley, and Pironkova sprinted up to flick a lob winner over her 6-foot-1 opponent.

Williams put her hand to her mouth, and Pironkova wheeled and hopped and pumped her fist.

“Wimbledon has always been like a religion to me. And I don’t think it’s just for me—it’s for all of the players,” Pironkova said. “It’s the oldest tournament. Growing up, every player is looking at Wimbledon. They say, ‘One day I want to play there.’”

Her supporters in the crowd—including younger sister Elisaveta, a college tennis player at Loyola Marymount—jumped to their feet, screaming and clapping, to celebrate pretty much every point Pironkova won. They even roared when her post-match interview was shown on the scoreboard, and Pironkova excitedly spoke about the possibility of maybe getting a mention “on the news” back home.

Yes, Tsvetana, you certainly made news at Wimbledon on Tuesday, even if you weren’t sure you could.

NBA BRIEFS

Report: Pierce to opt out, become free agent

ESPN.com is reporting Boston Celtics star Paul Pierce has notified the team he will opt out of the final year of his contract and become a free agent. Pierce’s agent, Jeff Schwartz, told ESPN.com in a text message Tuesday night the All-Star forward will forfeit next season’s \$21.5 million salary for a chance to sign a new four-year deal worth more than \$90 million. Schwartz did not immediately respond to a voicemail left by the AP. Pierce would become an unrestricted free agent and join a loaded group of NBA stars, including LeBron James and Dwyane Wade, who could be on the move starting Thursday at 12:01 a.m. (EDT). E-mail from the AP to Celtics owners Wyc Grousbeck and Steve Pagliuca were not immediately returned. (AP)

Source: Mavs’ star Nowitzki to test free agency

DALLAS (AP)—Add Dirk Nowitzki to the bumper crop of talented free agents. A person familiar with the decision told The Associated Press on Tuesday that Nowitzki has notified the Dallas Mavericks he is opting out of the final year and \$21.5 million on his existing contract. The person spoke on condition of anonymity because the team wasn’t planning to announce Nowitzki’s decision. Mavericks president Donnie Nelson already has booked a flight that will have him overseas at 12:01 a.m. ET on Thursday—6:01 a.m. in Germany—when free agency begins to show Nowitzki how sincere the club is about keeping its all-time leading scorer and rebounder. He’d obviously scrap the trip if Nowitzki decides to be elsewhere, but the Mavs hope that being there sends a strong message. “He is our No. 1 priority—period,” Nelson said. Dallas had been discussing an extension with Nowitzki, but it would’ve been for only three years.

Yao Ming coming back to Rockets, foot healed

HOUSTON (AP)—Yao Ming is returning to the Houston Rockets—a giant selling point for general manager Daryl Morey as he begins courting big-name free agents this week. The 7-foot-6 All-Star center said Tuesday that he has picked up his player option for next season, the last year of his five-year contract. Yao sat out last season following reconstructive foot surgery and said he wanted to see how the injury healed before making his decision. Yao said he’s resumed basketball activities and should be 100 percent when training camp begins. “To miss one year is a long time,” Yao said. “I’ve never been in this situation before, and I’m getting as much information as I can about my foot, to see what’s the best for me and best for the Rockets. I decided a couple of days ago, and there’s no one better than the Rockets now.”

Nets trade Yi to Wizards, clearing more cap room

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. (AP)—The New Jersey Nets traded forward Yi Jianlian to the Washington Wizards on Tuesday, creating even more room under the salary cap as they head into free agency. The Wizards dealt forward Quinton Ross to the Nets, who also sent an undisclosed amount of cash to Washington. The Nets freed up another \$3 million with the deal, leaving them about \$30 million to spend once free agency opens on July 1. It was the second time in less than a week the Wizards helped a team in the LeBron James chase. The Chicago Bulls added to their cap space on draft night when they traded guard Kirk Hinrich to Washington.

Lee pitches Seattle to win over Yankees



NEW YORK
(AP)—Cliff Lee pitched his third straight complete

game as the Seattle Mariners beat the New York Yankees 7-4 on Tuesday.

Lee (7-3) beat New York twice in last year's World Series for the Philadelphia Phillies, including Game 1 at Yankee Stadium. He won the ballpark opener for Cleveland in April 2009.

This time, the left-hander allowed two solo homers to Nick Swisher, allowed his first walk in almost a month and gave up two runs in the ninth inning.

Rob Johnson hit a two-run double in the sixth and Ichiro Suzuki drove in two runs with an RBI single in the third and a sacrifice fly in the fifth. Franklin Gutierrez homered for Seattle.

Yankees starter Phil Hughes (10-2) allowed seven runs—six earned—and 10 hits in 5 2-3 innings. The Yankees had won six of eight.

Angels 6, Rangers 5

At Anaheim, California, Bobby Abreu hit a tiebreaking three-run double in the sixth inning as Los Angeles overcame Vladimir Guerrero's homer and three RBIs to beat Texas.

Abreu delivered with a full count and two outs in the sixth for the second-place Angels, who ended Texas' eight-game road winning streak.

Guerrero, who wasn't re-signed by Los Angeles last winter after six seasons, singled after getting a standing ovation in the first inning. He drove in a run with a third-inning sacrifice fly before an impressive two-run homer to center in the seventh off reliever Kevin Jepsen.

Red Sox 8, Rays 5

At Boston, David Ortiz hit a three-run homer to break a fifth-inning tie, and Adrian Beltre had four hits as Boston downed Tampa Bay.

John Lackey (9-3) won his fifth straight decision, allowing one run and eight hits to give the Red Sox their 10th win in 13 games. With the Yankees' loss to the Seattle Mariners, Boston moved within one game of first-place New York in the American League East.

Indians 5, Blue Jays 4

At Cleveland, Fausto Carmona rebounded from his worst start of the season by pitching into the seventh inning as Cleveland edged Toronto.

Carmona (7-6) gave up four runs—three earned—and six hits over 6 1-3 innings to help the Indians to their first three-game winning streak since a four-game run June 9-12. Cleveland followed



Seattle Mariners' Cliff Lee pitches during the second inning of the baseball game against the New York Yankees on Tuesday, June 29, 2010, at Yankee Stadium in New York.

that modest streak by losing 10 of 11 until winning Sunday in Cincinnati.

Kerry Wood worked the ninth for his third save in three games and eighth in 11 chances overall.

Athletics 4, Orioles 2

At Baltimore, Substitute starter Vin Mazzaro allowed three hits in six-plus innings and Kurt Suzuki had three RBIs as Oakland won its fourth straight with a victory over Baltimore.

Coco Crisp had three hits, stole two bases and scored twice for the A's, whose winning streak matches their season high. Since returning from the disabled list a week ago, Crisp is 10 for 22 (.455) with nine runs scored in six games.

White Sox 4, Royals 3

At Kansas City, Missouri, Chicago's Gavin Floyd pitched into the seventh inning to earn his first win in five weeks as Chicago got past Kansas City.

Floyd, who was 0-3 with a 2.79 ERA in six starts since beating Florida on May 22, held the Royals to three runs, one unearned, and seven hits in 6 2-3 innings. In his previous two 2010 starts against the Royals, Floyd was 0-2, allowing 11 runs

and 23 hits in 12 1/3 innings.

Floyd (3-7) entered the game 0-4 in five career starts at Kauffman Stadium and 1-7 with a 5.53 ERA in 10 career starts against the Royals. He beat them for the first time since June 3, 2008.

Twins 11, Tigers 4

At Minneapolis, Denard Span tied a modern-era record with three triples and had five RBIs to get Minnesota back into first place in the AL Central with a route of Detroit.

Span also had a single and a walk for the Twins (42-35), who moved a half-game ahead of the Tigers (41-35) one night after losing their division lead for the first time since early April. Span became the first player since Atlanta's Rafael Furcal in 2002 to hit three triples in a game.

Marlins 7, Mets 6

At San Juan, Puerto Rico, Hanley Ramirez hit a grand slam and Dan Uggla singled home the winning run in the ninth inning for his third RBI as Florida beat New York just hours after the Marlins announced Edwin Rodriguez will remain their manager.

New York scored twice in the ninth off closer Leo Nunez (3-1), tying it at 6 on a single by pinch-hitter Josh Thole—his second hit this season. It was Nunez's fourth blown save in 20 chances

Phillies 9, Reds 6, 10 innings

At Cincinnati, Raul Ibanez ended Arthur Rhodes' record-tying streak of scoreless innings with a run-scoring double in the 10th, rallying the Philadelphia Phillies past the Cincinnati Reds.

Joey Votto's three-run homer with two outs off Brad Lidge (1-0) tied it in the ninth.

Rhodes (2-2) hadn't allowed a run in his last 33 appearances, tying the major league season record. The left-hander gave up a leadoff double by Ryan Howard and walked Jayson Werth.

Giants 4, Dodgers 2

At San Francisco, James Loney hit a go-ahead, two-run single in the fifth inning to help Los Angeles beat San Francisco.

Loney also had an RBI single in the first, on the same play that Manny Ramirez injured his right hamstring. Rafael Furcal tripled, singled twice and

scored a run as the Dodgers gave John Ely (4-5) plenty of support.

Rockies 6, Padres 3

At San Diego, Clint Barmes hit a three-run homer and finished with four RBIs, and Carlos Gonzalez added a solo shot to lead Colorado over San Diego.

The Rockies have hit six homers in two nights at spacious Petco Park, including one each night by Gonzalez.

Barmes added an RBI single in the ninth and the Rockies won for the sixth time in eight games.

Brewers 7, Astros 5

At Milwaukee, Prince Fielder homered twice as the Milwaukee Brewers outslugged the Houston Astros.

It was the seventh victory in nine games for Milwaukee, which hit four homers off Astros starter Brett Myers (5-6).

Cardinals 8, Diamondbacks 0

At St. Louis, Albert Pujols homered twice and doubled with a season-high five RBIs and Adam Wainwright was dominant on the mound as St. Louis shut out Arizona.

Dontrelle Willis (1-1) had another wild outing for the Diamondbacks, walking six, hitting a batter and getting lucky on a wild pitch thrown behind a batter that caromed back to catcher Miguel Montero for a tag play at the plate in the fourth. The Cardinals had 14 baserunners in 23 at-bats against the 28-year-old lefty, who retired none of four batters to start the fifth and has walked 13 in 7 1-3 innings his last two starts.

Nationals 7, Braves 2

At Atlanta, Craig Stammen, called up from the minors earlier in the day, pitched 7 1-3 strong innings to lead the Washington Nationals past the Atlanta Braves.

Josh Willingham hit a two-run homer, Ryan Zimmerman had a two-run double and Alberto Gonzalez had four hits as the Nationals snapped a five-game losing streak.

Stammen (2-2) was sent to the minors on June 6 to clear room for rookie Stephen Strasburg, who lost to the Braves 5-0 on Monday night. He was recalled from Triple-A Syracuse for the start, and allowed five hits, struck out four and walked two.

Cubs 3, Pirates 1

At Chicago, Alfonso Soriano hit two solo home runs and Ted Lilly pitched seven strong innings to lead the Chicago Cubs over the Pittsburgh Pirates.

The Cubs won for the fourth time in 11 games and improved to 3-8 this season against the last-place Pirates.

With unseasonably cool weather and the wind blowing in, Lilly (3-6) took advantage by getting a number of fly outs. He allowed one run and six hits, struck out five and walked one.



AUSTIN, Texas (AP)—Cincinnati Bengals running back Cedric Benson was arrested Tuesday and charged with misdemeanor assault for allegedly punching a bar employee in the face nearly a month ago.

Benson was booked into the Travis County jail where he later posted \$5,000 bail and was released. The charge of assault with injury carries a maximum potential penalty of up to \$4,000 in fines and up to a year in jail.

According to the Austin police arrest affidavit, Benson was at Annie's West bar in the Sixth Street entertainment district on May 30 when he got into an altercation with another, unknown bar patron that left him spitting blood from a cut lip. After staff intervened,

Bengals' Cedric Benson arrested in Texas

witnesses told police Benson shoved a bar worker and was verbally abusive. After being asked to leave, Benson was escorted to the door.

"As they took him outside, he continued to push and shove," Senior Police Officer Veneza Aguinaga said.

Bartender Bryan White told police that once outside, Benson complained to people passing by that "all these white boys are ganging up on me and kicking me out."

White said he told Benson he wouldn't take time out of his night just to kick him out, then Benson punched him in the face.

Benson's attorney, Sam Bassett, said

his client "looks forward to telling his side of the story at the appropriate time."

"Though he does not entirely agree with the version of facts recited in the court filings," Bassett said, "he does not wish to make his comments public at this time."

"Mr. Benson has always been willing to cooperate with the Austin Police Department to tell his version of what happened so long as he could have a lawyer present," he said. "The Austin Police Department decided to go forward with obtaining a warrant without obtaining Mr. Benson's side of the story."

Aguinaga said police interviewed witnesses and reviewed video surveil-

lance cameras that caught the incident. Detectives invited Benson to speak with them last week but he didn't show up for a scheduled meeting, she said.

Police then obtained a warrant and Benson was arrested without incident at a private home shortly before 8 a.m. Tuesday. Aguinaga said she didn't know if it was Benson's home.

Bengals spokesman P.J. Combs said the team was aware of the incident but said it was "inappropriate for us to comment until the matter is resolved through legal channels."

The arrest is just the latest brush with the law for Benson and the latest could draw a suspension from NFL commis-

sioner Roger Goodell.

"We are looking into it," said NFL spokesman Brian McCarthy, who said the league would not have further comment.

In 2008, Benson was arrested twice in a month on alcohol charges that were later dropped. While in college at the University of Texas, he was suspended for a game and pleaded no contest to a charge of criminal trespassing for forcing his way into an apartment to find a television he said was stolen from him.

Drafted in the first round by the Bears in 2005, Benson's legal troubles and poor results on the field prompted Chicago to cut him in 2008. He signed as a free agent with the Bengals and led the team with a career-high 1,251 yards and six touchdowns in 2009.

2010 Escape from Managaha

PHOTOS BY ROSELYN B. MONROYO



A volunteer instructs a swimmer to step on the finish line.



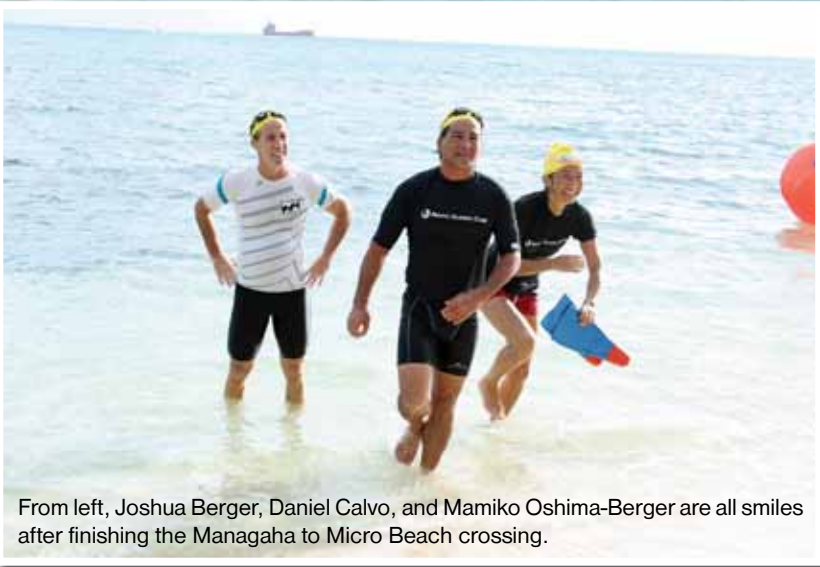
Crew of DPS Boating Safety check if all swimmers are accounted for.



Saipan Swim Club coach and volunteer kayaker Michael Villagomez heads back to the shore.



Michael Moran inches his way to the finish line.



From left, Joshua Berger, Daniel Calvo, and Mamiko Oshima-Berger are all smiles after finishing the Managaha to Micro Beach crossing.



Participants, volunteers, and organizers of the 2010 Escape from Managaha pose for a group photo after the race at Micro Beach last Saturday.



Victoria Chentsova, left, and Andrew Buitrago reach the buoy at the finish line.



First-timers in the Escape from Managaha pose for a group photo with volunteers.



Joshua Berger, right, greets his wife, Mamiko Oshima-Berger after completing the race.



Lenosuke Suzuki struggles to move out of the water with his fins still on.



No all-Williams
final at Wimbledon:
Venus stunned

24

Saipan Tribune Sports

Lee pitches
Seattle to win
over Yankees

25



28 THURSDAY, JULY 1, 2010

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Arriola back home for Micro Games

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Vacation is out of Mayuko Arriola's vocabulary these days, as the former No. 1 CNMI junior netter is busy training for the 7th Micronesian Games.

Arriola is on school break from University of Hawaii-Manoa, but when she returned to Saipan early last month, she quickly picked up her racquets and joined her teammates, who have been training since December last year.

"Since the day I got back, I have been playing everyday and training with the team to prepare for the Games," said Arriola, who along with defending gold medal-

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Mayuko Arriola returns to Thea Minor during their women's singles open finals game in the DFS tennis tournament early this month at the Pacific Islands Club.

Blatter hints at tech U-turn, Paraguay through



AP

Paraguay's Lucas Barrios, left, scores a shootout penalty past Japan goalkeeper Eiji Kawashima, right, during the World Cup round of 16 soccer match between Paraguay and Japan at the Loftus Versfeld Stadium in Pretoria, South Africa, Tuesday, June 29, 2010.

SIMON HAYDON
AP SPORTS WRITER



JOHANNESBURG (AP)—Spain showed touches of the class that makes the team European

champion on Tuesday, edging out Portugal in a tough second round game while Paraguay needed penalties to dispose of Japan.

David Villa finished off a fluid move of intricate passing to finally break down Portugal's defensive wall and give Spain a 1-0 victory. Villa's goal was his fourth of the tournament, making him joint top scorer in South Africa, while Cristiano Ronaldo could not manage to inspire Portugal.

The Barcelona-bound striker saw his first shot blocked by Portugal goalkeeper Eduardo, but on the rebound, he coolly slotted home

with his right foot.

"It was one of my best goals because it got us through to the next round," Villa said. "Keep scoring so we can keep going."

Spain will face Paraguay on Saturday at Johannesburg's Ellis Park in the quarterfinal, hoping for a semifinal meeting with Argentina or Germany.

FIFA president Sepp Blatter, acknowledging the fury of football
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Alexander, Salas to represent CNMI in 2010 Micro-Games



Alexander



Salas

By WALTER SUTHERLAND
walter_sutherland@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Saipan natives and former CNMI Little League All-Stars Justin Alexander and Jonathon Salas will be playing for Team CNMI in the 2010 Micronesian Games set from Aug. 1 to 10 in Koror, Palau.

In addition to these recruits from the U.S. mainland, the rest of the CNMI National Baseball Team roster will be made up of local Saipan athletes.

Alexander moved to Knoxville, Tennessee in 2006 where he played high school ball for the Webb School of Knoxville Spartans, where he performed as a four-year starter.

Upon graduation, Alexander signed on to play NCAA Division I baseball in the Ohio Valley Conference for the Tennessee Technological University Golden Eagles.

Reportedly, Alexander will be utilized as a right-handed pitcher and an outfielder

SEE ALEXANDER on Page 26

Manglona is fired up for Kaike



By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Though he had been to several grueling races this year, Tinian triathlete Joshua Manglona is not taking the 30th All Japan Triath-

lon Kaike lightly.

Manglona, who completed Saipan's trifecta—XTERRA, Tagaman, and Saipan Marathon—and Tinian triathlon, is going all out in his training for the July 18 race in Yonago City, Tot-

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Tinian's Joshua Manglona logs 12 miles during a regular early morning run training for the Kaike triathlon.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

